



UKRAINE MEDIA PROJECT (U-Media)

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

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Acronyms

AUP	NGO Academy of Ukrainian Press (www.aup.com.ua)
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DG	Democracy and Governance
DM	Detector Media (http://detector.media/)
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
GOU	Government of Ukraine
IAB	Independent Association of Broadcasters (http://www.nam.org.ua/)
IMI	NGO Institute of Mass Information (http://imi.org.ua/)
IPC	NGO Information and Press Center (http://investigator.org.ua/)
IR	Investigative Reporting
IUA	NGO Internews Ukraine (http://www.internews.ua)
LS	Local Solutions
CEDEM	Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (former Media Law Institute (MLI)) (http://cedem.org.ua/)
OD	Organizational Development
ENGAGE	Enhance Non-Governmental Actors and Grassroots Engagement
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
PSB	Public Service Broadcasting
RIJN	Regional Investigative Journalism Network Program
RPDI	NGO Regional Press Development Institute (http://www.irrp.org.ua/)
RPR	Reanimation Package of Reforms (http://rpr.org.ua/)
U-Media	Ukraine Media Project
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development

Introduction

Internews submits the Ukraine Media Project (U-Media) Semi-Annual Report for the October 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018 time period.

The Ukraine Media Project was awarded by USAID to Internews in August 2011 and launched on October 1, 2011. The Ukraine Media Project follows the eight-year USAID media support program, *Strengthening Independent Media in Ukraine*, also known as U-Media and implemented by Internews. In September 2016, Internews received a two-year cost extension for the Ukraine Media Project covering October 2016 through September 2018.

U-Media is administered with the following program objectives:

1. Support and Promote Freedom of Speech and Media Independence;
2. Increase the Variety of News Sources and Improve News Quality;
3. Improve the Media Enabling Environment and Freedom of Speech; and
4. Improve Organizational Capacity of Media CSOs and outlets.

Internews highlights the following accomplishments for the reporting period:

National Media Talk: The Role of Independent Media in Ukraine

To facilitate professional discourse and networking for the media community in today's turbulent environment, on November 2-3, 2017 Internews, in partnership with the Independent Association of Broadcasters, organized a conference called "National Media Talk: The Role of Independent Media in Ukraine." The event assembled 168 media players throughout Ukraine to spend two days exploring solutions to an array of challenges facing the media. Opening remarks by Susan Fritz (Regional Mission Director of USAID for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova), and Wayne Sharpe (Director of Internews in Ukraine), were followed by a keynote speech by Myroslav Marynovych (Vice-rector of Ukrainian Catholic University, co-founder of Amnesty International in Ukraine, and a founding member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group). His address, titled "The Word Is Dead, Long Live the Word," encouraged journalists to follow the principle of reporting the truth which he described as an eternal rule for media throughout the world.

The two-day National Media Talk contained seven discussions moderated by leaders of media organizations, all of which are current Internews partners. Day One was dedicated to discussions about the quality of media in Ukraine and its influence on public processes (moderated by Andriy Kulikov, founder of Hromadske Radio); ways to successfully implement public service broadcasting reform (moderated by Taras Petriv, president of Suspilnist Foundation); regional media content (moderated by Svitlana Yeremenko, executive director of Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy); and journalists' work during a period of hybrid war (moderated by Andriy Kulakov, program director of Internews Ukraine). Day Two provided attendees with a stage to discuss journalism ethics in a time of war (moderated by Natalia Ligachova, chair of the board of Detector Media); national security versus freedom of speech (moderated by Mary Mycio, American journalist and media lawyer); and freedom versus responsibility in media (moderated by Kateryna Myasnykova, executive director of the Independent Association of Broadcasters).

During the conference, videos introduced each discussion panel and shared conference participants' and citizens' opinions on the panel topics. Interactive "instant audience voting"

results on various topics were displayed on panel screens to keep the audience involved and ensure dynamic and constructive dialogue.

The event became a stage for representatives of commercial media, non-profit media organizations and independent media outlets to launch a national professional discussion diagnosing the current status of the media sector and looking to the future. Please see more about the National Media Talk, including media coverage of the event, in *The Key Activities and Results in Response to the Latest Challenges* section of this report.

Public Service Broadcasting Progress: Innovative Television Show Discussing Reforms and Promoting Ukrainian Culture

The UA:Pershy television channel (public service broadcaster), in partnership with Suspilnist Foundation (SF), produced and broadcast in October-December 2017 an innovative *late night television show* called “ChereShchur” to discuss Ukraine’s economic, political, social and cultural reforms in a satirical and entertaining way. Each of the eleven 26-minute programs contained two interviews conducted by anchor/performer Michael Shchur (stage name of the UA:Pershy journalist and member of the board of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company Roman Vintoniv). The show’s first guest, for example, spoke about governmental reforms (decentralization, land reform, administrative reform of state institutions, etc.), while the second interview subject was an entertainer who spoke about cultural reforms. Each program featured a musical performance as well.

The program attracted various high-profile guests. For example, the New Year’s Eve edition of the “ChereShchur” program welcomed the Ambassador of Canada to Ukraine, Roman Waschuk. Among the guests-reformers featured were Ivanna Klympush-Tsyntsadze (Vice-Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine), Uliana Suprun (Acting Minister of Health of Ukraine), Yevhen Nishchuk (Minister of Culture of Ukraine), and Maksym Nefyodov (Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine). Among the celebrities promoting Ukrainian culture were Yuriy Andrukhovych (writer), Akhtem Seitablayev and Yaroslav Lodyhin (film producers), and Arsen Mirzoyan, Dmytro Shurov, Tonia Matviyenko, Leo Mantis, and Khrystyna Soloviy (composers and singers).

Using this innovative approach, the public broadcaster contributed to improving the media literacy and critical thinking skills of Ukrainians; the ironic style of the show taught people to critically assess information they receive from different sources about what goes on in their country. Over 2,000,000 viewers watched the television series, which was broadcast on Friday nights and re-run on Sunday nights.

Suspilnist Foundation (SF) produced an online version of the TV show, called “ChereShchur Backstage,” which aimed to engage younger audiences. The online version presented 10-minute talks with the studio guests and was hosted by four journalism student interns selected by Suspilnist, which manages a journalist internship program (also with U-Media support). “ChereShchur Backstage” was available on the [Campus 30](#) (Suspilnist Foundation) and [betv.com.ua](#) platforms. SF also created special aggregative pages for “Chereshchur Backstage” in [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), where young audience members could post questions and comments.

In October-December 2017, the UA:Pershy and Suspilnist Foundation organized a large-scale promotional campaign for “ChereShchur” using different communication platforms, including

television, radio, digital devices, cinemas, city lightboxes, and billboards, among others. The public broadcaster aired 259 promotional videos on UA:Pershy, 392 promotional videos on the UA:Culture, and 168 promotional videos on the UA:Crimea television channels. Ukrainian Radio (which is part of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company) aired 291 audio PSAs promoting “ChereShchur”. Twenty cinemas in Kyiv, Odesa, Kharkiv, Lviv and Dnipro showed promotional videos for the late night show, which ran before 2,828 movies, viewed by 190,716 people. Four cinemas in Kyiv installed cardboard figures of the show’s anchor Michael Shchur, and 23 billboards promoted the show in Zhytomyr, Ivano-Frankivsk, Mykolayiv, Odesa, Poltava, Ternopil, Kharkiv, and Chernivtsi.

Draft Audiovisual Law Registered at the Parliament

The draft Law #7397 On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Television and Radio Broadcasting (the law on audiovisual services), was registered in Parliament on December 14, 2017. This important step became possible thanks to the [involvement](#) of the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law’s (CEDEM) lawyers. The law is designed to regulate the media sector in line with European standards as a condition of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

While draft Law #7397 has not been considered by Parliament yet, representatives of several media groups have asked the Parliamentary Committee for Freedom of Speech and Information Policy to consider their proposed amendments to the draft law to ensure a balance among all stakeholder interests. CEDEM lawyers, together with Parliamentary Committee lawyers, are updating the draft law. The bill will be re-submitted to Parliament in spring 2018. To update the public on the key points of the draft law, CEDEM publicized a [short analysis](#) of it on its website.

Approach to Implementation

U-Media supports and develops Ukrainian media through activities that protect freedom of speech, improve the media-enabling environment, create opportunities for new and innovative approaches by Ukrainian media outlets, and strengthen media NGO leaders’ capacity to effectively represent their constituencies.

U-Media activities span four pillars of the [Internews’ strategic framework](#) for improving information ecosystems: access, inclusion, content, and engagement. Within Internews’ program implementation, the four pillars represent transparent access to information, advancing systemic inclusion of marginalized voices, filling gaps in quality content and supporting the ability of people to critically engage with information.

U-Media administers subgrants to Ukrainian civil society organizations (CSOs) and media organizations supporting an independent media, and media outlets’ increased access to public information, raising the media literacy level of Ukrainians, increasing public awareness of reforms, and nurturing a positive legal environment for media activities. U-Media managers and technical advisors provide assistance and training to partners on professional journalism standards, media literacy initiatives, investigative journalism and information campaigns on important issues for Ukrainians. U-Media also supports institutional capacity-building for media organizations and outlets through subgrants, training, and networking activities.

Due to challenges in the development of public service broadcasting in Ukraine, low public awareness of and skepticism toward reforms, the continuing disinformation war waged by the Kremlin, growing demand for better information sharing with Ukraine's conflict-affected communities, the lack of media literacy, and poor communications between government and citizens, Internews encouraged partners to tailor their Year Seven workplans to respond to these challenges and opportunities. In addition to these ongoing challenges, the pre-election year (2018) placed more responsibility on Internews and its partners to improve the content quality of independent media outlets and to promote a culture of civilized political discourse, as an alternative to the populist talk shows which flood national television channels owned by oligarchs.

During the last six months, U-Media partners implemented projects that facilitated development of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company of Ukraine; monitored professional standards and information distributed by national and regional media; monitored journalists' rights; surveyed content production to provide the public with a critical view on current events; created media literacy curricula for secondary schools, pedagogical universities and colleges; organized internships for young journalists in independent newsrooms; assisted local print media in going through de-statization reform; organized inter-regional journalist exchanges followed by content production about reforms on a local level; and conducted networking events allowing journalists to discuss difficult issues in a friendly manner.

Among the most successful projects was the Suspilnist Foundation's "Establishing Public Service Broadcasting in Ukraine", which administered production of the "ChereShchur" late-night show for UA:Pershy, and development of the public broadcaster's communication strategy and operational plan for 2018.

U-Media also supported the Academy of Ukrainian Press' efforts to integrate media literacy into public schools, thereby widening the network of secondary schools teaching media literacy courses (from around 300 in the recent past to 2,000 currently) and introducing new resources for media literacy teachers, in particular the "Critical Thinking and Media Literacy" handbook, which contains an array of model lessons for different secondary school grades (see Success Story attachment).

Regional partners organized tours for journalists to improve their awareness of local governance reforms, stimulate quality media coverage, support local municipal newspapers participating in de-statization reform, expose them to multimedia content production, and promote the principle of gender balance in media content production. A successful regional project was the Kharkiv, Sumy, Dnipro, Kherson, Ternopil, Volyn, and Zakarpattia Press Clubs' initiative to organize interregional media tours to build a platform for discussions about the role of journalists in society during a time of hybrid war. The tours also increased journalists' awareness of regional government reforms and decentralization, anti-corruption initiatives, government accountability, and distribution of local and international funding.

In March 2018, 11 projects were initiated under the U-Media Small Grants Program. They are being implemented from March through August 2018. Grants are between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Program priorities include producing and distributing informative content for regional media organizations, including television, radio, print and internet. The content aims to increase public awareness about Ukrainian reforms (for example, decentralization, education, and healthcare system reforms in Sumy, Zaporizhzhia, and Chernivtsi Oblasts); fostering journalism

of tolerance and gender balance (for example, telling stories about minorities and distributing public service announcements about gender balance). The small projects program is also designed to promote best practices among regional media outlets and support their development (for example, production and distribution of multimedia stories by the Lviv Ukrainian Media Initiative, and assisting regional branches of the National Public Broadcaster to organize local media schools and produce content about decentralization reform).

Small grantees are spread around the country; for example, the Ukrainian Media Initiative (Lviv) and Chernivtsi Branch of the National Public Broadcaster in the West; the Donetsk Press Club (operating from Kyiv) in the East; Public TV Zaporizhzhia in the South; and Sumy Press Club and the Sumy Bureau of Policy Analysis in the North. In Kyiv, small grant implementers include such diverse organizations as the Ukrainian Center for European Policy, Hromadkse Radio, Insight, Fulcrum, and the Svidomo investigative reporting bureau.

Continued misunderstandings between different types of media groups or media organizations during this period of military conflict and critical reforms inspired Internews and grantee IAB to organize a national media conference called the National Media Talk (November 2-3, 2017), a gathering designed to foster honest discussions about responsible journalism and quality content. The event will hopefully become annual.

Subgrantee Categories

The subgrantee categories and subgrant types described below reflect different levels of institutional capacity and experience. At the conclusion of each fiscal year, Internews evaluates the organizational development progress of all its partners and makes adjustments with them in consultation with USAID.

Institutional Partners

Internews believes these organizations play leading roles in the media NGO sector and qualify for direct international donor support:

1. Internews Ukraine (IUA) promotes EU integration, cultivates critical thinking among journalists and media consumers, trains journalists on professional standards and ethics, improves the media's awareness and practice of cyber security, administers and supervises a group of experts who tell factual stories about Ukraine designed for international audiences, and conducts election-related activities;
2. Detector Media (DM) monitors and analyzes national and regional TV news quality, trains journalists in the east and south of Ukraine about political processes, and organizes national and regional events with media representatives to distribute their monitoring results.

Core Partners

Core partners are organizations that have worked with U-Media for the past five to eight years and have strong track records as service providers, are leaders in their technical areas and have made strides in developing organizational capacity:

1. Independent Association of Broadcasters (IAB) contributes to local TV content production, provides regional TV stations with legal advice on multiple issues, promotes the inclusion of regional TV channels in the upcoming switch from analog to

digital broadcasting, and organizes industry events such as *New Media – New Opportunities*, an annual digital media forum, as well as a national journalism contest. In November 2017, IAB assisted Internews in holding the National Media Talk conference.

2. Institute of Mass Information (IMI) trains journalists on physical security and first aid, publishes textbooks and other reference materials, conducts public discussions in the regions on practical issues related to media sector development and manages j-sos.org.ua, a website designed to help prepare and protect journalists who cover conflict and conflict-affected communities in Ukraine;
3. The Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM) facilitates implementation of media reforms (within the framework of the Reanimation Reforms Package Media Working Group), and organizes educational events on legal issues for a variety of media and government organizations;
4. The Academy of Ukrainian Press (AUP) conducts monitoring and content analysis of national primetime TV news programs, implements a School of Media Literacy dedicated to launching new and improving existing media literacy courses at schools of secondary and higher education, and organizes discussions for national and regional journalists on quality reporting;
5. Suspilnist Foundation (SF) implements an internship program for young journalists, known as the Media Mobility Hub, to match the best students with professional media, including ICTV, Radio Liberty, and UA:Pershy. SF also supports the National Public Service Broadcasting Company of Ukraine in its institutional development and the UA: Pershy television channel in content production;
6. UA: Pershy TV Channel (implements grant projects through the Charitable Foundation for Support and Development of Public Service Broadcasting of Ukraine) produces and broadcasts programs related to Ukraine's reforms initiative in the process of building a strong and independent public broadcaster;
7. The Information & Press Center (IPC-Simferopol, now located in Kyiv) produces Crimea-focused TV programming, continues its investigative reporting website (<http://investigator.org.ua/>), and invests in media institutional development;
8. Regional Press Development Institute (RPDI) provides training and education for regional media professionals on investigative reporting, legal issues, new media tools, reform awareness, and legal education for regional journalists during elections.

When evaluating proposals from existing subgrantees for continued funding, U-Media applies a set of criteria designed to emphasize the effectiveness of each applicant's prior activities, progress toward achieving their objectives, and progress in improving institutional capacity. These results help U-Media to determine which groups will continue to receive funding and encourage organizations to focus on their strengths. U-Media may decide to discontinue funding if results have not been achieved and/or a subgrantee has shown insufficient progress in capacity development.

Organizations Implementing Special Projects, Emerging and Short-term Partners

During this reporting period, Internews worked with several partners implementing special projects that supported such U-Media priorities as media monitoring, content production on reforms, gender and diversity reporting, local content production and cross-regional content sharing.

This group of partners includes:

- The Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy (POID)
- TOM 14 investigative reporting agency
- Weekly Mirror newspaper
- Ternopil Press Club (TPC)
- Kharkiv Press Club (KhPC)
- Volyn (Lutsk) Press Club (VPC)
- Donetsk Press Club (DPC)
- Svidomo investigative journalism bureau (SVDM)
- Rivne Investigative Reporting Agency "Fourth Power"
- Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting (MCIR).

Media Environment

Bringing Order to the Airwaves

On 14 December 2017, a draft of the “On Television and Radio Broadcasting Audiovisual Media Services” law was registered in the Ukrainian Parliament. Lawyers of the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law took part in the development of the bill. The new law, if passed, aims to integrate European media standards into Ukrainian law.

The bill improves the procedure and grounds on which the National Council for TV and Radio (NTRC) can regulate broadcasters; the bill clearly defines for the first time the types of violations of broadcast legislation and the sanctions applied to them. Under this law, the National Council would be empowered to apply a wide range of penalties to broadcasters that violate the terms of their licenses - for example, it could send a warning, impose a fine, suspend, and even apply to the court to cancel the license of broadcasters that fail to meet the Council’s requirements. This provision is widely seen as a positive step towards bringing order to a television sector that is dominated by oligarchs who rule the airwaves through backroom deal making.

One of the most controversial issues in the bill is the establishment of a Joint Regulatory and Supervisory Authority, consisting of representatives of the media industry, public associations, and non-governmental organizations. This co-regulation structure, requiring the NTRC to cooperate with an expert body of private industry representatives, is modelled after structures in Great Britain and Austria; this coalition will make decisions regarding the protection of minors from harmful content, how broadcasters must comply with legislation governing the conduct of media during elections, and other matters of public interest. Oligarchs with media holdings have protested the creation of this structure, as it would impact their political and financial interests.

The law also provides for the possibility of non-governmental organizations to establish non-profit broadcasters – commonly known as *community media*. If this draft is passed by Parliament, NGOs that are judged to be transparent in their membership policies and financing could be authorized by the regulator to set up low power broadcasters to provide local news and other content of interest to the community.¹

Underfunding at the PSB

Ukraine’s public service broadcaster, UA: Pershy, made great gains in becoming a well-managed and lean national network during this reporting period. It successfully reduced the size of its staff from 7,057 in October 2017 to 4,309 in April 2018, and introduced new programs that educated while entertaining to appeal to the younger demographic the broadcaster desperately needs to attract. Unfortunately, the Government of Ukraine refuses to provide full funding as stipulated in the Public Service Broadcasting Law. Even though the Cabinet of Ministers submitted to Parliament a draft state budget for 2018 of US \$35 million (65% of the amount set out in the Law on Public Television), the Institute of Mass Information

¹“Key novelties of the Draft Law on audiovisual media services,” prepared by the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law for Internews, March 2018.

reports that on December 7, 2017, Parliament adopted Bill #7000 On the State Budget of Ukraine for 2018, in which financial support for the National Public Service Broadcaster was set at just US \$28 million, half the \$54 million set out in the law.

As a result, UA:Pershy's directors cut program production by every regional PSB branch except UA:Donbas. PSB management says it can only guarantee fulfillment of all of its license conditions if the 2018 state budget is amended by Parliament.

Journalist Threats and Criminal Impunity

Attacks on journalists saw a slight increase in 2017 in unoccupied Ukraine. There were 276 registered cases of violations of freedom of the press, 12 more than in 2016, but a vast improvement over 2015, which saw 310 violations, and over the 995 violations seen during 2014, the year the conflict in the East began.²

The killers of Ukrainian journalists remain at large. Veteran journalist Pavel Sheremet was killed on July 20, 2016, on his way to work when an explosive device was triggered in his car. The Ukrainian authorities called the investigation of Sheremet's murder "a matter of honor." However, after 18 months, the National Police and Ukrainian Secret Service (SBU) investigation has led to almost no results; neither the names of the killers nor the beneficiaries of the journalist's murder have been discovered. Moreover, according to a parallel investigation carried out by local journalists, law enforcement officers failed to notice many important details and facts at the crime scene, neglected to interview important witnesses, and did not study videos from some security cameras.

During the final, bloody crackdown on the Euromaidan protest movement in Kyiv on February 18, 2014, Vyacheslav Veremyi, a 33-year-old correspondent for *Vesti* newspaper, was shot and killed by an unidentified assailant as he was leaving Independence Square, the center of the conflict. Veremyi and his colleague, Aleksei Lymarenko, were dragged out of a taxi by masked men and violently beaten, before Veremyi was shot in the chest. He died on the morning of February 19. On December 23, 2017, the trial for Veremyi's accused killer ended with a four-year suspended sentence and two-year probation period. The judge from the Shevchenkivsk Court in Kyiv ignored the prosecutor's call for a six-year prison sentence and found the accused guilty only of 'hooliganism.'³

Solidarity to Weather the Storm

The year 2018 appears to auger a return to dangerous times for Ukraine's journalists. As reported by the Institute for Mass Information, the provider hosting the web portal of the *Fourth Power* investigative journalism unit in Rivne was robbed of its servers on February 17. The *Fourth Power* news website covers Volyn and Rivne regions and specializes in investigative journalism. The *Fourth Power's* editor-in-chief, Volodymyr Torbich, wrote about

²"In 2017, in Ukraine there were 276 registered freedom of speech violations — IMI," IMI website, 1 January 2018, <http://imi.org.ua/en/monitorings/in-2017-in-ukraine-there-were-276-registered-freedom-of-speech-violations-imi/>.

³ "Suspended sentence for the savage murder of Maidan journalist Viacheslav Veremiy," Human Rights in Ukraine, website of the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group, 23 December 2017, <http://khpg.org/en/index.php?id=1513962865>.

the situation on his Facebook page and mentioned it during an interview with the Lutsk-based *Konkurent* (Competitor) news website. “Unfortunately, the provider informed us that all the website’s back-ups were located on servers in the same building. As far as I know, the same provider hosted other Rivne-based information websites as well. I believe this is not just a robbery, but an obstruction to the work of journalists,” Torbich said.⁴

On February 22, an unknown individual arrived at the editorial offices of *Fourth Power* and threw a bottle filled with a flammable, combustible substance into the building. The journalists on the second floor of the premises called for emergency services and the fire was extinguished, but it damaged windows, doors, office furniture, and equipment. Thankfully, nobody was injured.

Torbich told Detector Media that the arson attack was an attempt to silence the *Fourth Power*’s investigative reporting activities. The Institute of Mass Information and Transparency International Ukraine urged law enforcement agencies to investigate the crimes against these journalists as quickly as possible and prevent aggravation of the situation.⁵

In a show of solidarity, investigative journalists from agencies in Kyiv (the Crimea Center for Investigation Reporting and Svidomo) and Mykolaiv (Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting) travelled to Rivne to launch their own investigation into who was behind the theft and the arson attack. Like the journalists who investigated Pavel Sheremet’s murder, these journalists will not rely on the authorities to conduct a thorough investigation of these crimes.

As elections near in 2019 (Presidential and Parliamentary) and 2020 (local), fair, accurate, and balanced journalism will be ever more important, and the journalists who produce it will be ever more at risk of intimidation and attack. The solidarity of Ukraine’s media support system will be tested often, but as the journalists who travelled to Rivne in support of *Fourth Power* have shown us, the media community is organized and working together, despite the risks, to ensure Ukrainians continue to get the information they need to make important decisions about their future.

Key Activities and Results in Response to the Latest Challenges

Media Literacy

Cultivation of critical thinking in Ukraine’s regions

⁴ “RIVNE-VOLYN EDITION WEB HOST ROBBED,” *Konkurent* WEBSITE, 18 FEBRUARY 2018, <https://konkurent.in.ua/news/luck/23591/pograbuvali-hosting-na-yakomu-bulo-rivnenskovolinske-vidannya.html>

⁵ “Rivne prosecutor’s office took control of the investigation of the arson of the editorial office of the “Fourth Power,” on the Detector Media website, 23 February 2018, <http://detector.media/infospace/article/135005/2018-02-23-rivnenska-prokuratura-vzyala-na-kontrol-rozsliduvannya-pidpalu-redaktsii-chetvertoi-vladi/>

The Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy (POID) contributed to the cultivation of critical thinking in the regions of Ukraine by holding six media literacy hard talks (discussions). The hardtalks served to raise the awareness of journalists, representatives of civil society, local government officials, librarians, judges and other people of non-media related professions about misinformation, fake news, jeansa, propaganda and manipulations in regional media. These discussions are particularly important during this period of oligarch-owned media

dominance in Ukraine, the information war, and the forthcoming elections.

"A public servant who is familiar with the basics of media literacy is a valuable resource for state authorities and it will be difficult to manipulate him." Tatyana Molotkova, public official of Berdyansk Regional Council

"Now I can distinguish true information from manipulations... I know signs of fake [media], propaganda, jeansa. This training is very instructive and positive." Svetlana Moshuk, public official of Dnipro Regional State Administration



The six events were held in Chernivtsi, Zhytomyr, Kherson, Sumy, Dnipro, and Kherson for over 150 local government representatives (around 90 women and 60 men), teachers, judges, leaders of NGOs and local territorial units (communities), as well as journalists, marking an unprecedented interest in the issue of critical thinking. In addition to discussions, the events contained role playing games to help participants formulate basic criteria for evaluating government employees' level of media literacy.

- A discussion in Dnipro (November 7, 2017, at the Regional Institute of the President's National Academy

for Public Administration) entitled "The basics of media literacy for governmental employees," assembled 30 local government officials from Zaporizhzhia, Dnipro, and Kirovohrad regions. During the discussion, Professor of Public Administration Valeriy Dreshpak pointed out the importance for government employees to become competent in critical media consumption.

- A discussion in Chernivtsi on October 5, 2017 for leaders of local communities of Chernivtsi region (moderated by POID media expert Tetiana Smoldyрева) entitled "Do you trust the media? Media competency against the informational war," focused on the topic of trust in media and included a practical exercise in analyzing print, online and video products for signs of manipulation.
- A discussion in Zhytomyr on October 20, 2017 called "How to avoid becoming an informational puppet?" held at Oleh Olzhych Regional Universal Library and moderated by Zhytomyr Press Club head Iryna Novozhylova, concentrated on misinformation and propaganda's influence on public opinion.
- A discussion in Kherson on October 24, 2017, "New media and professional journalism standards, or do we need regional media in the digital world," held at the Philology Department of Kherson State University, mostly promoted journalism standards at the local level.

- An event in Sumy, held at Sumy Public Center, “Critical thinking against manipulations,” moderated by POID media trainer Alla Fedoryna, provided participants with an in-depth analysis of how to recognize manipulations in media and the role of critical thinking during this period of reforms.

Media literacy resources for public schools

The Academy of Ukrainian Press’s (AUP) efforts in implementing media education and media literacy resulted in the approval of the curriculum, titled Me in Media Environment, for use by 2nd and the 3rd grades of elementary schools by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The authors of the curriculum were Inna Ivanova, a vice-principal of the secondary school #2 in Pershotravensk (Mykolaiv region), and Antonina Kozhanova, elementary school teacher at secondary school # 2 in Marhanets (Dnipropetrovsk region). Both are alumni of the AUP media education summer schools.

In October 2017, the curriculum “Fundamentals of media literacy for the 8th-9th school grades” was approved for use in schools by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

The AUP handbook “Media literacy and critical thinking in elementary schools” for teachers collected 7,662 views on the AUP website, 1,322 views on the portal “Media education and media literacy” and 22,519 views on AUP’s Facebook page. The handbook was downloaded by over 1,500 users. Around 500 schools used the handbook.

The Information War

Ukraine World International Google Group

Internews Ukraine (IUA) coordinated the *UA World International* Google group to better inform international audiences about Ukrainian responses to Kremlin propagandists who devote significant resources into painting Ukraine as a failed state. The group’s main activity is to exchange information (articles and posts) online as a source of unbiased news about Ukraine for an international audience.

Currently the group consists of 228 members (up from 85 when the group started in the Fall of 2016), representing 120 think tanks and institutions worldwide. Online group participants included Internews Ukraine, Hromadske TV, StopFake, the Ukraine Crisis Media Centre, the Institute for World Policy, Euromaidan Press, International Renaissance Foundation, and the Kyiv Post. Representatives from the following international think tanks and media are also part of the group: Chatham House, Atlantic Council, European Council on Foreign Relations, German Council on Foreign Relations, Carnegie Foundation, EU Institute for Security Studies, Bellingcat, European Values think tank, Financial Times, Le Monde, The Economist, BBC, Reuters, France 24, Zeit, and El Pais.

Launched in 2017, the *UA World International* website, in addition to offering a closed online *UA World International* Google group, serves as a repository of articles, stories, and analyses produced as a result of the *UA World International* group’s discussions and debates. It also contains group members’ analyses of the most important developments in and around Ukraine. Three thousand people visit this site each month.

Among the publications that attracted the most attention during the reporting period were:

- [Why is Nord Stream 2 Dangerous for Ukraine and Europe? — Interview](#)
IUA's Vitaliy Rybak interviewed Mykhaylo Honchar, President of the Strategy XXI Center for Global Studies, who explained to UA World why the new Nord Stream gas pipeline, running from Russian to Germany and initiated by Russian state-owned energy company Gazprom, is a threat both to Ukraine and the European Union.
- [Is Ukraine Ready For UN Peacekeepers?](#)
IUA's analysts Ruslan Minich and Anna Kyslytska discussed major pitfalls related to proposed UN peacekeeping force deployment in Ukraine. The articles examines questions such as: Can UN blue berets bring peace to eastern Ukraine? Or are they just a tool in a political game? This article was published in [KyivPost](#).
- [What Might Be Next In EU-Ukraine Relations?](#)
IUA's journalist Volodymyr Yermolenko and Taras Kachka, a Ukrainian expert in EU law and former member of the Ukrainian negotiating team on the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, explained how the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement opens up room for deep reforms, integrates Ukraine into the European single market, and provides an environment for implementation of EU product safety and quality inside Ukraine itself. The authors concluded that the strategy of regular, small, concrete steps can make EU-Ukraine rapprochement tangible for people, and can provide additional fuel for driving EU-Ukraine relations. This article was first published in the [EUObserver](#).
- [Key Facts You Need To Know About Ukraine's Reform Of Public Administration](#)
IUA's analyst Anna Kyslytska discussed several facets of public administration reform that have been ongoing in Ukraine but which are invisible to citizens. For example, several Ukrainian ministries have launched new Directorates (i.e. internal platforms with newly-recruited staff). These new public servants receive very high salaries by Ukrainian standards in an effort to curb corruption. They represent a significant step in implementing European-style public administration reforms.
- [Porous Restrictions: Why Sanctions Against Crimea's Annexation Don't Work](#)
IUA's analyst Anna Kyslytska prepared a report on how international companies find ways to avoid sanctions imposed by the EU and the US over Russia's annexation of Crimea. The report argues that, while prolonging and tightening sanctions is important, it is also vital to closely monitor if they are respected and to be aware of the loopholes that exist for cunning companies and politicians to get around them. Once these loopholes are detected, it is important to close them as soon as possible in order not to undermine the credibility of the sanctions policy itself.
- [Fighting For Equality: What Does It Mean To Be a Woman In Today's Ukraine?](#)
IUA's analyst Anna Kyslytska discussed the challenging issues of gender stereotypes in Ukrainian society. At the same time, the author explained, in 2018 Ukraine made a significant step forward in fighting violence against women: domestic violence was criminalized by the new Law "On Prevention and Counteraction to Domestic Violence." The law introduced an integrated approach to combating domestic violence, and applied changes to the Criminal and Criminal Procedural Codes of Ukraine, all in

compliance with the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention).

- **Ukraine's Had Revolutions, But Where Is the Real Evolution?**
IUA's analyst Ruslan Minich discussed the results of Ukraine's three revolutions – 1990, 2004 and 2013-2014 – and concluded that all of them raised people's consciousness and shook state structures; in effect, they were important social and political outbursts that triggered new development. However, he argues that the real evolution of Ukrainian society is yet to come. This article was first published by the [Atlantic Council](#).

In addition to traditional articles, during the last six months, Internews Ukraine produced an array of infographics, video explainers, video stories, and podcasts distributed through the UA World International website. Among those are:

- [Online wars: how Ukraine lives without Russian internet \(infographics\)](#)
- [What Ukrainians Think: Key Insights from Ukraine's Public Opinion Polls in 2017 \(infographics\)](#)
- [Explanation of pension reform in Ukraine \(video explainer\)](#)
- [Ukrainian pupils sort waste to save environment \(video story\)](#)
- [Condominiums versus utility companies: Ukrainian experience \(video story\)](#)
- [Key trends and events of 2017 for Ukraine \(podcast\)](#)
- [Ukrainian prisoners in Russia \(podcast\)](#).

Mirror Weekly's Discussion on Reintegration of Donbas

On October 31, 2017, the Mirror Weekly newspaper, in tandem with the Ukrainian School of Political Studies, organized the hard talk, "Return of occupied territories of Donbas - Ukrainian plan," for 100 (65 women and 35 men) journalists, diplomats, representatives of international organizations, scholars, and public officials. Agenda topics included the political resolution of the conflict in Donbas, options for administrative models of local governance after the de-occupation (military, civil, or civil and military), first steps of economic recovery after de-occupation, and possible economic models for a re-integrated Donbas.

Mirror Weekly editor-in-chief, Yulia Mostova, and deputy editor-in-chief, Serhiy Rakhmanin, moderated a panel of politicians, economists, and researchers addressing the current Donbas situation as well as possible solutions for the region's governance and economic future. Residents of Luhansk and Donetsk Oblasts have become more pro-Ukrainian in the last two years, according to Iryna Bekeshkina, chief researcher of the Institute of Sociology and director of the Democratic Initiatives Foundation. However, Ella Libanova, director of the Institute for Demography and Social Studies, voiced concern that people who have stayed in the Donbas during the conflict are reluctant to integrate into Ukraine's environment with its European orientation.

Member of Parliament Yegor Firsov addressed transitional governance in Donbas in the form of civic-military administrations after the territory is liberated from Russian-supported separatists. Presidential advisor and economist Olexandr Paskhaver introduced the idea of a free economic zone initiative in Donbas to attract foreign and domestic investment for resources in building a new economic system. The Mirror Weekly's editor-in-chief Mostova

summarized by saying Ukraine should develop a strategy taking into account a peaceful, post-war Donbas integrated into Ukraine.

Just after the event, Mirror Weekly published in print and online an article about the hard talk.

Reforms Agenda

Mirror Weekly Facilitates Educational and Medical Reforms by Its Articles

In January 2018, the Mirror Weekly published the article "The Attestation Tragicomedy" written by Lidia Surzhyk (15,436 views through the Mirror Weekly website, and 1,307 shares in Facebook) which exposed corruption at the Special Council⁶ of Luhansk State Medical University regarding approval of PhD degrees. After the article was published, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine analyzed the Special Councils' activities and proposed to eliminate their participation in the PhD degree approval process. This idea was reflected in the article "The Scientists' Degrees Without Special Councils" written by Yakiv Khazan in January 2018 (7,038 views through the website, and 256 shares on Facebook). The articles launched a larger discussion within educational and research circles about the elimination of Special Councils as a positive step forward in the implementation of educational system reform.

In addition to this issue, the media continued to expose plagiarism in the academic sector, such as in the article, "Dr. Plagiarism," (36,476 views on website, 1,500 shares in Facebook) also written by Lidia Surzhyk. The article sparked a review by the Ministry of Education and Science of the origin and authorship of dissertations at an array of academic institutions in Ukraine. A number of "dead souls" (mostly relatives of academic institutions' senior managers) were found to be employed at the academic institutions (people who are included on the lists of researchers at certain institutions and receive salaries, but who, in fact, have nothing to do with the research work). The Ministry also found "fake dissertations" – research papers for which people received scientific degrees, but which were of extremely low quality and were written by hired dissertation writers.



As healthcare system reform is also being implemented in Ukraine, The Mirror Weekly published the article "Hold the Doctor!" written by Olha Skrypnik in February 2018 (25,630 views through the Mirror Weekly website, and 1,800 shares in Facebook) about the shortage of qualified doctors in Ukraine's hospitals. The article suggested implementing healthcare reform in a wise way, and not just eliminating doctors' positions at the hospitals. The article's publication also coincided with a corruption scandal around the Rector of the Kyiv National Olexandr Bohomolets Medical University, Kateryna Amosova. The details of the scandal were disclosed in the article "Chained Together" written by Oksana Onyshchenko in March 2018 (16,446 views through the website, and 637 shares in Facebook). The article found that diplomas were being sold and that medical students were avoiding independent tests, especially in the dentistry department of Kyiv Medical University, contributing to the lack of qualified

⁶ Special Councils are the bodies responsible for determining whether to grant doctoral degrees to scholars.

medical professionals in Ukraine. The article attracted the attention of the Ministry of Healthcare of Ukraine; a special commission was established to check how independent tests were implemented by the medical university mentioned above. As a result, a new licensing exam was put into place for future dentists. Further inspections into corruption issues are being planned at the Kyiv Medical University.

Media Self-Regulation

National Media Talk: The Role of Independent Media in Ukraine (highlighted as key accomplishment in the Introduction section of this report)

On November 2-3, 2017, Internews, in partnership with the Independent Association of Broadcasters, organized its first all-Ukrainian National Media Talk titled “The Role of Independent Media in Ukraine.” The event served as a platform for seeking common solutions to today’s most urgent and controversial media issues.



One hundred and sixty-eight national and regional journalists and international organization representatives attended the two-day conference in Kyiv.

In opening remarks, director of the USAID mission in Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova, Susan Fritz, and director of Internews in Ukraine, Wayne Sharpe, encouraged participants to engage in constructive dialogue at the event.

Myroslav Marynovych, Lviv Catholic University’s vice rector and a well-known human rights defender, called for the return of the “word” in his keynote speech titled “The Word Has Died, Long Live the Word!” Marynovych emphasized that journalists have contributed to the creation of the post-truth environment and must revive their ethics to overcome the crisis of truth. He pointed out that promoting deliberately untruthful opinions is the same as balancing evil and questioned whether there should be an equilibrium between truth and evil.

On Day One, a panel titled “To What Extent the Information Provided by Media to Ukrainians is of High Quality,” was moderated by an acknowledged thought leader, Andriy Kulikov, of Public Radio. Panelists Oksana Sokolova of ICTV, Kyrylo Lukerenko of Public Radio, and Victor Shlinchak of Glavkom, discussed how a whole generation of Ukrainian journalists do not know how to work with different types of information. A different panel that included Public Service Broadcasting officials (moderated by Taras Petriv, president of Suspilnist Foundation) discussed the PSB’s challenges and accomplishments since its registration in January of this year.

Conference participants discussed the dominance of *jeansa* (paid news coverage), re-printed articles, and crime coverage, and the lack of news coverage about ordinary citizens in regional media during a session with Internews' monitoring teams Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy (POID) and Detector Media (DM), moderated by POID director Svitlana Yeremenko. The role of journalists in a time of hybrid war was discussed during a session moderated by Andriy Kulakov of Internews Ukraine.



On the second day, a session moderated by Detector Media's Natalia Ligachova addressed ethical challenges for journalists in times of conflict. Panelists included Anastasia Stanko (Hromadske.ua), Olha Musafirova (Novaya Gazeta), and Roman Vintoniv (National PSB Company of Ukraine) and concluded that journalists have to be more responsible and professional. Ligachova said that journalists understand their important self-regulatory role in putting pressure on government for the reasonable regulation of media content. Internews presented guidelines for defending media freedom developed for Ukraine by a group of international and Ukrainian analysts that balances freedom of speech and necessary security measures.

The day following the conference, *Detector Media* and *Day newspaper* both wrote articles on important sessions at the event. In its article "Myths about the Public Service Broadcaster (PSB): Media Workers Talk about Betrayal of Reform Instead of Real Help to National PSB," *Detektor Media*'s article reiterated the key message of Tetyana Lebedeva, chair of the Supervisory Board of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company: that it is crucial for decision-makers to understand that public service broadcasting is the backbone for democracy in Ukraine. Lebedeva also mentioned that Ukrainians should recognize public broadcasting as non-state television and radio that serves society but not the government, interests that do not necessarily coincide. *Detector Media* expressed optimism about the future of PSB, noting the audience's voting results during this session: most of the conference attendees voted that PSB is exemplary in terms of promoting journalism standards. However, the audience's opinion was that the PSB reform would take more than four years, and that Ukrainians are not ready to pay for independent broadcasting right now.

The *Day* journalist Natalia Ishchenko posted a blog article titled "To Kill Post-Truth," which referenced National Media Talk as "without a doubt, one of the most important events in Ukrainian journalism in the past years." She reflected on Myroslav Marynovych's conference keynote speech which, for the first time, "... outlined ethical values and spiritual guidelines for the work of journalists, and gave a moral assessment of the current media sector reality," in Ukraine, she wrote.

The post explored why and how people who do not tell the truth have become more powerful by creating the "illusion of truth." Ishchenko summarized Marynovych's message that the replacement of alternative opinions in media with lies or half-truths leads to the devaluation of moral principles in a society. According to Marynovych, lies and truth don't exist; all we have are different opinions. Truth in this case is nothing but an average between various opinions.

Internews recommends that the National Media Talk become an annual event linking different media sector stakeholders, and providing a stage for them to regularly communicate, network, and exchange information and ideas.

Key Activities and Results by Objective

Objective 1: Support and Promote Freedom of Speech and Media Independence

1.1. Media Monitoring

Internews Media Monitoring Electronic Library

Since May 2017, the U-Media program has been administering the media monitoring electronic library in English and Ukrainian languages (linked to the Internews website), which features a user-friendly format to review national and regional media monitoring. Library sources include media monitoring reports from U-Media partners Academy of Ukrainian Press, Institute for Mass Information, Detector Media, and the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy. National and regional media monitoring results for the first quarter of 2018 are available at the electronic library.

The monitoring organizations evaluated television, radio, print and online media's adherence to professional standards, searched media for signs of paid news (*jeansa*), and analyzed the information environment on a national and regional level.

National television channels

Detector Media (DM) monitored the following media in October 2017 – March 2018 with regards to: their compliance with journalistic standards, cases of Kremlin propaganda, manipulations, censorship, signs of hidden sponsorship, and key topics covered in news programs:

- News programs on eight national TV channels (1+1, Inter, UA: Pershy, 112 Ukraine, ICTV, Ukraina Channel, Channel 5, and STB)
- Radio broadcasts of the national station Era FM (now closed), and
- Evening news on 10 regional TV channels in Odesa Oblast (regional Pervy Gorodskoy (First City) channel, Reporter, and Glas (Eye)); Mykolayiv Oblast (NIS-TB, and Saturn); Kharkiv Oblast (Channel 7, Simon, and ATN); and Zakarpattia Oblast (Channel 21, and M-Studio).

Since November 2017, Detector Media (DM) has also monitored the following social and political television talk shows with regards to their compliance with journalistic standards: “Freedom of Speech” on ICTV; “The Right for Power” on 1+1; “People are Against” on ZIK; “Ukrainian Format” on News One; and “Main Topic” on Ukraina channel.

Detector Media, on its MediaSapiens website, posted 49 reports containing monitoring results and 57 analytical articles on the background for the monitoring reports. These items were viewed by over 49,000 internet users.

The media monitoring results for 2017 were presented at a joint press conference by Detector Media, Institute for Mass Information, and the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy, called “How the Central TV Channels Violated Standards and Manipulated in 2017,” held on December 21, 2017 in Kyiv at the Ukrinform information agency.

In February 2018, the Academy of Ukrainian Press (AUP) did a content analysis of news programs on seven national Ukrainian TV channels - Inter, 1+1, Ukraina Channel, STB, ICTV, UA: Pershy, and Channel 5. The research was focused on professional standards, topics and messages released, and pre-paid materials. The AUP findings include:

- Political news in Ukraine is featured in 26% of all television news content, a decrease when compared to the results of monitoring held in September 2017 that showed 33% percent and in February 2017 when it was 40%. This percentage is the lowest since December 2013. Inter TV devoted the most airtime to political topics (33% of news reporting), whereas UA: Pershy was the least inclined to cover political events during the monitoring period (20% of airtime).
- The share of reports on the topic of countering corruption remains fairly the same as in the previous year, receiving 6% of coverage; according to AUP’s monitoring, in September 2017 this number was 5%. This percentage fell compared to the monitoring data collected earlier (12% in June 2016 and 13% in September 2015).
- Negotiations about the war between Ukraine and Russia were barely addressed this year, which is a change from last year. However, perspectives on bringing UN peacekeepers to control the situation in Donbas were discussed from time to time.
- The share of direct speech given to opposition party representatives grew to 27%, whereas in September 2017 it was 13%. Ukraina Channel was the main producer of opposition coverage.

Regional print and online media

The Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy (POID) conducted two waves of regional media monitoring (November 2017 and February 2018) in eight regions of Ukraine - Donetsk, Luhansk, Kharkiv, Odesa, Dnipro, Zhytomyr, Lviv and Chernivtsi. POID’s group of 25 experts evaluated over 5,000 articles (experts selected only socially important stories for evaluation and did not take into account advertising, food recipes, advice to gardeners, etc.). During each wave, POID produced eight reports containing monitoring results for each of the regions (sixteen reports overall for the last six months). Two final analytical reports (one per each wave) were publicized by POID through its website, partner organizations’ mailing lists and websites, the Detector Media website, and Facebook.

According to POID’s regional monitoring results, around 40 percent of print and online media products are neutral in tone, around eight percent are positive, and around three percent are negative. Almost one third of the monitored stories were produced by regional newsrooms on their own. Over 50 percent were republished from other sources (identified in the publications), and the sources for around 17 percent of stories were unknown.

Based on the monitoring results, POID experts prepared six analytical articles and published them on the POID website, in Den (Day) newspaper and on the POID Facebook page. One of the most popular articles was authored by POID expert Liubov Vasylyk (PhD in social communications, chief of the journalism department of Chernivtsi Yuriy Fedkovych National University): “About info-hooks and balance of information, or how journalists legitimize the

governments of quasi Donetsk and Luhansk republics.” Having analyzed the news sections of Donetsk and Luhansk media, Vasylyk recounted how media outlets belonging to Eastern Ukrainian oligarchs legitimized the messages of the DNR and LNR leaders by quoting them in anti-Ukrainian stories.

National print and online media

The Institute for Mass Information (IMI) monitored eleven national online media outlets - Ukrainska Pravda, Liga, Obozrevatel (Observer), UNIAN, LB.ua (Left bank), Ukrinform, 112.ua, TSN of 1+1, Korrespondent, Strana.UA, and Censor.net – and five popular national print media outlets – Segodnia, Vesti, Fakty, Hazeta po-Ukrainski (Newspaper in Ukrainian) and KP v Ukraine (Komsomolskaya Pravda in Ukraine) - for adherence to professional standards. Using the results of their media monitoring, IMI experts produced 500 news stories about how national media outlets follow professional standards on online media outlets; 250 news pieces were publicized in print media outlets. IMI published a full-size monitoring report on its website in the section [Research on professional standards](#), and a summary report showing the level of paid news in the section [Research on jeansa](#).

According to IMI experts, in 2017, 20 percent of paid news in national online and print media was commissioned by the Opposition Bloc, and 12 percent by the Oleg Lyashko Radical Party. Looking at professional standards, in 2017 print and online media outlets mostly violated standards of balance and accuracy. IMI experts discovered that approximately 12 percent of stories lacked balance and contained inaccurate information.

1.2. Media Literacy

1.2.1. Media Literacy Curriculum for Public Schools and Universities

On December 15-16, 2017, the Academy of Ukrainian Press organized a seminar “Critical thinking and media literacy in elementary school” in Zazymya Kyiv suburb for 24 school teachers (all women) from Eastern and Central Ukraine. These teachers introduced media literacy courses following the directive of the Ministry of Education and Sciences to cultivate critical thinking as a new state standard for elementary education. Trainers were Valentyna Potapova, Halyna Dehtiarova, and Inna Ivanova – alumni of AUP’s Media Education Summer Schools. A master class by Inna Ivanova, deputy director of Pershotravensk secondary school #2, in Dnipropetrovsk region, received the most positive feedback. Ivanova presented teaching



methods on how to convince schoolchildren not to blindly follow role models in the media but to analyze and develop a critical attitude towards media stories.

On March 15 and 16, AUP held the second “Critical thinking and media literacy in elementary school” seminar in Lviv for 20 representatives (18 women, 2 men) of Lviv hub schools, which are in charge of implementing the new state standards for critical thinking in elementary schools. The hub schools’ professionals are responsible for further training elementary school

teachers in Lviv region.

On December 16, 2017, AUP conducted the “Media education approach to teaching English as a foreign language” workshop for 15 English teachers (all women) and educational administrators of different regions of Ukraine. Moderated by Artem Ponomarevskiy, AUP’s media education trainer, the participants learned the key components of the media education approach, namely, using media messages for communication, the impact of media messages on the process of learning, teacher’s professional media competence development, analysis of information sources, and curricular and extra-curricular forms of media education. The training was run in an interactive format that provided teachers with an opportunity to take part in discussions, model games, and exercises. Afterwards, 9 of 15 teachers decided to launch English language newspapers at their schools.



1.2.2. Promoting Critical Media Consumption Among the Public

Media literacy coordination meeting with the Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine

On February 8, 2018, Internews and U-Media partners participated in a discussion organized by the Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine about implementing media literacy at educational institutions in Ukraine.

U-Media partners – Institute of Mass Information, Detector Media, and Internews Ukraine, as well as representatives of USAID, the USAID ENGAGE project, and the Ministry of Education – discussed the current integration efforts of media literacy into secondary school disciplines and shared their media literacy products. They also discussed the necessity of national media literacy campaigns for different audiences to increase critical information consumption.

Regional discussions on critical media consumption

On February 22, 2018, Internews Ukraine and its local partner NAKIPELO media group (Kharkiv) organized a regional discussion on how to resist propaganda and information warfare with a focus on critical media consumption for 11 participants (6 women and 5 men) from local media, CSOs, human rights defenders and the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine in Kharkiv region. Some of the main topics discussed were countering Russian propaganda and learning how to recognize media manipulation. To bring the local community’s attention to this event, Internews Ukraine announced it through its [website](#), [NAKIPELO’s website](#), and Internews Ukraine’s [Facebook page](#). The speakers at this regional discussion were Andriy Kulakov (program director, Internews Ukraine), Volodymyr Yermolenko (expert on Eurointegration programs, Internews Ukraine), Yevhen Maslov (representative of the National Television and Radio Council in Kharkiv region), Victor Pichuhin (journalist at Hromadske TV in Kharkiv), Rostyslav Kasianenko (editor-in-chief of the group of websites *Spravzhnia Varta* (real guards)), and Dmytro Bulakh (member of Kharkiv City Council). The discussion was broadcast online via NAKIPELO’s live platform.

Internews Ukraine held a second regional discussion on how to resist propaganda and information warfare in Lviv on March 16, 2018 in partnership with local media hub Tvoe

Misto (Your City). Fifteen people (8 women and 7 men) representing local media, CSOs, human rights defenders, and educators attended. Topics on the agenda of the two-hour discussion included key challenges caused by Russian propaganda in Lviv region, and recommendations for national and local authorities on how to counter propaganda. The social media campaign preceding the discussion included online posters on Internews Ukraine's Facebook page. The discussion itself was broadcast live via the [Tvoe Misto YouTube platform](#). The speakers were Volodymyr Yermolenko (expert on Eurointegration programs, Internews Ukraine), Vitaliy Moroz (digital security expert, Internews Ukraine), Oksana Dashchakivska (Doctor of Political Sciences, head of Western Ukrainian Office of the International Renaissance Foundation), Dmytro Borysov (Lviv journalist and analyst), Antonina Kolodiy (Doctor of Political Sciences, Lviv), and Victoria Romaniuk (School of Journalism, Ukrainian Catholic University).

Speakers of both regional discussions concluded that journalists should do their own fact-checking rather than depend on media organizations like StopFake to expose fakes they find in Ukrainian and Russian media, and that local media must produce unbiased narratives to oppose Russian propaganda. Internews Ukraine will further incorporate these conclusions in upcoming media literacy projects and to inform the state institutions which are in charge of information security in Ukraine, such as the Ministry of Information Policy and the Parliamentary Committee for Freedom of Speech and Information.

Promotion of media literacy resources for different audiences

Detector Media continued to operate the [MediaSapiens](#) website, which contributes to increasing media literacy among various audiences. From October 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018, 1,142 stories were posted to the site, including 862 news segments, 261 articles, and 19 interviews with media experts. Page views totaled 1,252,197 and the number of unique users was 277,167 during this period.

Detector Media reports that during this period the [Mediaprosvita](#) (Media Education) section was visited by 375,880 viewers, the internet page by 204,772 viewers, and the TV and Radio section by 124,295 viewers. The most visited subsections were Television – 116,479 views, Media Education – 94,323 views, Online Media – 87,952 views, Media Analytics – 83,737 views, How To – 73,334 views, and Social Media – 58,025 views.

The TV and Radio section traffic increased by 38 percent over the previous reporting period, the How To traffic increased by approximately 40 percent, and the Media Education subsection increased by approximately 65 percent. The overall [MediaSapiens](#) website traffic numbers increased by approximately 15 percent overall during this period.

The five most popular stories on [MediaSapiens](#) were:

- [“Guys, these are Corpses”: How TV Journalists Covered an Accident in Kharkiv](#) (23,579 views)
- [Publishing House Condé Nast starts Publishing the LGBT-magazine “Them”](#) (13,530 views)
- [Media Literacy Caricature Contest](#) (10,055 views)
- [“Media Literacy is a Must Have Skill for a Modern Person”, Liliya Hrynevych said](#) (8,578 views)
- [Neurophysiologist Serhiy Tukayev: "The Less We Watch TV, the Smarter and Less Depressive We Are"](#) (8,130 views)

In addition to being posted on the website, the articles were distributed through social networks, partners' websites, and through the expert community.

Detector Media promoted an innovative news literacy online course through its Facebook page. The course was developed in 2017 and consists of 11 modules aimed at introducing media literacy to a wide audience. On March 15-16, 2018, Detector Media conducted a 2-day training for media literacy communicators in Kyiv, which was based on the online course. Twenty-five teachers and psychologists (20 women and 5 men) from high schools, lyceums, and afterschool institutions dealing with teaching media literacy from 22 cities took part. The training was focused on demonstrating how to use the online news literacy course to help implement media literacy classes at schools.

Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy popularizes media literacy among local communities undergoing de-centralization

During the last six months, Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy (POID) coordinated a media literacy training program for representatives of the united territorial communities⁷ in Sumy region to provide community leaders with skills to critically consume media, especially during the upcoming election period in Ukraine. Coordinated by POID, Sumy "Civic Circle" NGO incorporated media literacy coursework into their School of Volunteers program and invited POID trainer and media expert Alla Fedoryna to deliver a series of training sessions on communication and media literacy. As a result, two volunteers expressed their intention to continue their media education to serve as advisers to members of their communities once the massive election advertising campaigns start. Another regional partner of POID – the Sumy Center for Secondary Legal Aid – included Fedoryna's media education module into the civic education program to be implemented in Putyvlsky and Trostyanetsky districts of Sumy region for local activists and community leaders.

Protecting Journalists' Rights Under the Law

Consulting journalists and raising media legal literacy

During the last six months, the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM) provided 76 consultations through its hotline to journalists and media representatives regarding media legislation and journalists' rights issues. The consultations were mostly related to de-statization reform, defamation, hate speech, copyright protection, and journalists' rights when they produce online stories. CEDEM lawyers have also commented on pertinent events in the media sector, providing their expertise on the violation of human rights in media, violations of journalists duties in covering an accident in Kharkiv, the legality of an interview with former head of the Communist Party, etc. In February 2018, CEDEM lawyer Vita Volodovska provided her expert opinion on the rights of journalists in covering protest actions, after the European Court for Human Rights announced its verdict in favor of the Ukrainian journalist Maksym Butkevych earlier that month. Butkevych had applied to the European Court because of his illegal arrest during anti-globalist protests in Saint Petersburg, Russia in July 2006.

Media law training for the Public Service Broadcaster

⁷ The united territorial communities are merged communities that were formed as a component of decentralization reforms.

In order to support the development of a quality public broadcaster in Ukraine, in February-March 2018, CEDEM organized a legal training in Kyiv for journalists and media personnel of the UA:Pershyy, the country's public service broadcaster, to ensure their compliance with Ukraine's media legislation. Twenty-seven journalists and editors (20 women and 7 men) from the Central Directorate of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company, Ukrainian Radio, and regional branches of UA:Pershyy in Vinnytsia, Zakarpattia, Kharkiv, and Cherkasy, participated in this training. All of the participants were divided into two study groups. For each group, CEDEM lawyers and invited experts provided three sets of 2-day workshops containing lectures and practical exercises on key media legislation issues.

The first workshops, at the UA: PBC press center on January 21-22, 2018 and March 2-3, 2018, was dedicated to general issues of state regulation in the media sector, specific functions of the public broadcaster in Ukraine, and journalists' rights to access to public information. The second workshops (March 9-10, 2018 and March 16-17, 2018) covered the topics of defamation and copyright protection. The third workshops (March 23-24 and March 30-31) raised the journalists' legal knowledge of protection of privacy and coverage of court proceedings.



TOM 14 Investigative Journalists Protected Their Professional Rights Under the Law

On March 21, 2018, TOM 14 NGO, a group of investigative journalists producing the "Our Money" television program, succeeded in renewing a court case on an attack on their journalists in 2015 during filming at a mansion belonging to the family of Deputy Interior Minister Serhiy Chebotar in the village of Lisnyky near Kyiv. "Our Money" journalists were attacked by Chebotar's son-in-law Oleh Polishchuk. After the journalists filmed the attack, Polishchuk and several young people assaulted a cameraman and stole his camera. A criminal proceeding commenced in 2015 on two counts, but the pre-trial investigation of the case lasted for two years; in February 2017, the case went to court, where the proceedings lasted for almost a year. On February 7, 2018, the Svyatoshyn District Court of Kyiv closed the case. TOM14's investigative reporting team continued fighting for their rights to be protected in the court, and on March 21, 2018, a panel of judges at the Kyiv Regional Court of Appeal canceled the decision to close the case and returned it to the court of first instance for further hearings.

Barometer of freedom of speech

In early 2018, the Institute for Mass Information (IMI) announced the results of its freedom of press monitoring in 2017 on its website; the results were distributed to law enforcement institutions, local media, NGOs, international media organizations, and to IMI's mailing list of over 1,500 media outlets and individual journalists. IMI experts found 276 cases of violations of freedom of press, which slightly exceeded the level of 2016 (264 cases). The top three types of violations were: 1) prevention of journalists from professional activities (in 2017 - 89 cases, in 2016 – 108 cases); 2) restriction of access to public information (in 2017 - 41 cases, in 2016 – 30 cases); and 3) threats and intimidations of journalists (in 2017 - 37 cases, in 2016 – 43 cases).

As a result of IMI's consistent work with law enforcement agencies, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the Prosecutor General's Office, in 2017, 23 cases of violations of freedom of press were investigated and sent to courts. IMI also cooperated with the Prosecutor's Office of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (now located in Kyiv and Kherson) and submitted 26 cases for investigation of violations of press freedom in Crimea. The overall number of cases sent to courts was at the same level as in 2016.

The Institute for Mass Information's communication with the Ministry of Internal Affairs provided IMI with information that enabled IMI to rank the best and worst regions for launching investigations into violations of journalists' rights. For the year 2017, the worst were Mykolayiv, Poltava, and Volyn' regions, while the best one was Kyiv region.

Objective 2: Increase Variety of News Sources and Improve News Quality

2.1. Journalist Training and Professionalism

2.1.1. Reform Education for Journalists

Raising journalists' awareness of reforms in the South of Ukraine

From December 2017-March 2018, the Odesa Institute of Political Information (IPI) organized four trainings for 75 journalists (46 women, 29 men) from Odesa, Mykolaiv and Kherson oblasts to educate local journalists on the progress of reforms in the region, during this reporting period. Participants learned where to find relevant data for producing quality stories and improved their storytelling skills. Most of the journalists worked for district print and online media outlets and had very little professional training, so those trainings became important professional development events for them.

2.1.2. Professional Training and Events

Honor of Profession Journalism Contest launched

On March 3, 2018, the Independent Association of Broadcasters (IAB) in partnership with the Ukrainian Association of Media Business announced the ninth Professional Journalism Honor of Profession contest. Story submissions were accepted between March 3-20, 2018. This year 455 stories were submitted. In 2017, 500 were submitted to Honor of profession, and in 2016 – 912.

This year's competition had five categories:

1. Best media product on a civic issue
2. Best presentation of a resonant story
3. Best report
4. Best presentation of a complex topic
5. Hope of journalism.

All professional journalists in Ukraine were invited to submit their works for consideration, without restriction by age, type of media (print press, television, radio, internet, etc.), genre and sphere of journalism, or region of work and residence. The only age restriction was for the hope of journalism nomination, which required that journalists were under 25 years old.

This year, the competition's supervisory board decided to replace one of the former categories (best journalist investigation) with best report. "The introduction of the best report nomination is necessary to promote this genre, which was once called the 'king of genres' in Ukraine," said Andriy Kulikov, a supervisory board member of the Honor of Profession and chair of Hromadkse Radio, about the changes. "In my opinion, the report [genre] itself requires a very high journalistic qualification... Reports, above all, should be characterized by accuracy and efficiency. And this is the combination all Ukrainian media outlets lack today. The report itself is often the first to convey to the audience the most necessary knowledge, which can subsequently be developed in other genres, including deeper analytics or investigations," Kulikov said.

He also appealed to the contest participants. "Do not be indifferent," he said. "To a great extent, the well-being of Ukrainians depends on you. After all, the more necessary information you provide, the more confidence in life our people will feel!"

Irina Virtosu, a winner from last year's competition, said, "For me, the Honor of Profession is kind of an Oscar in journalism, the Ukrainian Pulitzer Prize. It is a good example of journalistic solidarity when colleagues in the industry not only appreciate your work but use it as a good example to follow. (For example), my journalistic research on domestic violence in families of ATO fighters was highly appreciated and inspires my desire to 'dig' into uneasy topics.

"For me, high standards in journalism are not only 'classical' objectivity, accuracy, and truthfulness. A person and one's story must be the center of attention. And regarding human rights — avoiding hate speech and discrimination, and covering sensitive topics," Virtosu added.

The official awards ceremony will be held in May 2018 and televised by the UA:Pershy channel.

This year's contest is co-supported by the USAID Support to Anti-Corruption Champion Institutions (SACCI) Program in Ukraine, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the UN Development Program in Ukraine, and the Coca-Cola companies in Ukraine.

Small Stipends Program to produce success stories about reforms

Internews Ukraine implemented a Small Stipends Program for regional journalists to produce success stories about reforms on a local level. Journalists' ideas about their upcoming stories were collected between February 1-14, 2018; 122 applications were considered by an independent selection committee on February 16, and 15 winners were selected to receive \$100 each for further production of their stories about reforms. The winners represented television, print and online media in eleven regions of Ukraine, including the East and South. Among the reforms to be covered were the energy sector, healthcare system, and decentralization, including infrastructure development in newly-merged local communities. The winners will produce media stories before the end of April 2018.

Within the reporting period, one online article was published with Small Stipend support. The story "Cherkasy Has Succeeded in Implementing Online Doctors' Appointments" produced by Anna Romanenko, a journalist of VyCherpno (Completely) online magazine in Cherkasy, covered a success story about healthcare reform on a regional level, looking particularly at the

introduction of an electronic system to make doctors' appointments online in Cherkasy- a first for Ukraine. A quote in her story from Oleh Stadnyk, chief of Cherkasy City Council's healthcare department, read: "Paper records for each patient should disappear in 5 years from now. And relations between patients and doctors should change because the innovation we have implemented in Cherkasy will help change a doctor's role in the society. Each doctor will stop seeing 'working material' in patients, but will treat them with respect," Stadnyk said.

Media Mobility Hub: internship program for young journalists

Suspilnist Foundation (SF) conducted a fall/winter Media Mobility Hub (MMH) internship session for 18 journalism students (13 women, 5 men) and administered a selection process for the spring internship program in mid-May 2018. With the Media Mobility Hub, SF places young journalists in real media jobs through internships at leading Ukrainian media outlets. As a rule, MMH is advertised via the SF online platform and partners' websites.

From November 12-26, 2017, the 18 interns, selected from 65 total applicants, improved their knowledge and gained journalism skills at Kyiv-based media such as Radio Liberty, Channel 5, UA:Pershy, EspresoTV, Hromadske.ua, ZIK, and Radio NRJ. The interns came from universities in Vinnytsia, Zaporizhzhia, Kamianets-Podilskiy, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Poltava, Sumy, Kharkiv, and Kyiv. During the November internship, young journalists practiced how to use filming and editing equipment, attended mini-lectures and workshops on social and investigative journalism, and developed content.

At the launch of the internship program, the participants attended a workshop called "Modern challenges in Ukrainian reporters' work," led by Andriy Hetman, news editor and head of the international department of ICTV television channel.

On November 15 and November 22, interns worked with the UA:Pershy team and beTV production studio during taping of "ChereShchur," the late-night TV program supported by U-Media. Suspilnist Foundation interns produced a scenario and filmed their version of a special program called "ChereShchur Backstage" which was broadcast on the SF YouTube channel. This is an online version of "ChereShchur" made up of a 10-minute Q&A session where student anchors interviewed the "ChereShchur" guests during commercial breaks in the UA:Pershy program. A group of interns also recorded a rap promotional video for the program.



Participants of internship Media Mobility Hub during the shooting of the backstage of the night late show «ChereShchur»

MMH participants developed 82 media stories - 42 print articles, 20 publications for online media resources, 12 videos, 4 photo stories, and 4 radio segments. Upon graduation from the internship session, intern Anastasia Herasymenko was invited to work at the UA:Pershy television channel.

To discuss lessons learned during the internships and strengthen the professional relationships of young journalists with experienced media sector players, on December 12, 2017, SF organized a meeting in Kyiv for the interns with Pavlo Khud, director of the School of Journalism of Lviv Catholic University. For the same purpose, on December 15, SF invited

Volodymyr Mzhelskiy, editor-in-chief of Channel 5, to discuss with interns the skills they will need to succeed in the media business.

Suspilnist Foundation's MMH internship program not only benefits the student interns and the media outlets involved, but it also contributes to Ukraine's educational system reform, since it provides practical instruction to students, and often leads directly to full time employment in the industry.

2.2. Content Production

2.2.1. Countering Russian Influence

Mirror Weekly analytical articles influence public policy in Ukraine

During this reporting period, the Russian and Ukrainian language media outlet "Dzerkalo Tyzhdnya" (Mirror Weekly, circulation 24,000) covered Ukraine's reforms in the following areas: constitutional reform, electoral legislation, judicial reform, economic competitiveness, oligarch monopolies, and banking sector reform, etc. In total, 125 analytical articles and 129 news reports were published. The newspaper reached nearly 300,000 readers; total views for all analytical stories on the website were 595,856, and 132 recipients (at ministries and Parliamentary committees, media, non-government analytical centers, and experts of the relevant sectors) received the articles and news stories through Mirror Weekly's electronic newsletter.

Nearly 100 journalists, experts, famous Ukrainian researchers and public officials of all levels were involved in writing the analytical stories and news segments. Among those were Serhyi Kvit (ex-Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine), Serhiy Taruta (founder of Industrial Union Donbas, former governor of Donetsk Oblast, and current member of Parliament of Ukraine), Yaroslav Zhalilo (Ukrainian economist, former first deputy director of the National Institute for Strategic Studies), Olexandr Demchenko (Ukrainian professor in biochemistry, head of the Laboratory of nano-biotechnology at the O. Palladin Institute of Biochemistry of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), and others.

Among the most popular articles was an interview with Finance Minister Oleksandr Danyliuk "Many people wish to get rid of the IMF to preserve the current situation to satisfy their personal interests" (January 2018, author – Yulia Samayeva) which was viewed by 68,458 people (compared to an average of 2,000-3,000 views of MW articles) and was reprinted by over 120 media outlets in all regions of Ukraine and posted on the Ministry of Finance's Facebook page. Before this article was published, Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman expressed his doubts about the need for State Fiscal Service reform. After seeing this publication, the Prime Minister revisited his position and declared at the next government's meeting that the reform of the State Fiscal Service was among the government's priorities.

Another popular article was "The Reform of Higher Education in Ukraine" (October 2017) written by ex-Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine, Serhyi Kvit. The article launched a discussion within the education community about necessary changes in the higher education system of Ukraine, issues in the education sector that were resolved after the Revolution of Dignity, and what should be done next. All of these topics were particularly acute when Ukraine started implementing a new law On Education (approved by the Parliament in September 2017), which entailed changes to other laws, especially the law On Higher

Education. A group of researchers fighting against plagiarism in Ukraine's academic sector used Kvit's arguments in this article in their discussions of what to do with the approvals system for PhD degrees in Ukraine.

2.2.2. Reform Coverage

Local content helps implement reforms

Small Grants recipient Odesa NGO Institute of Political Information (IPI) produced content for its website <http://informer.od.ua/> in user-friendly formats (ex. infographics, videos, photos) to explain the essence of reforms to audiences in Ukraine's south. The following topics were covered: best practices of decentralization (including the merging of local communities), public and business initiatives to facilitate reforms in the south, financial decentralization advantages, and reforms of educational and healthcare systems and their influence on residents' living standards. To increase the audience and broaden the impact of the project, IPI launched an online platform on Facebook to disseminate short video digests about Odesa news, including progress of reforms. Fifteen digests were produced from February to March 2018, attracted a total of 45,000 unique views.

Worth mentioning is IPI's article "Comprehensive support: how the Balta community encourages the work of doctors in the countryside" which facilitated the repair of a hospital in the small Odesa region town of Balta and upgrades for the living premises of a family doctor who works in the country.

2.3. Regional Media and Cross-regional Links

Press tours geared for inter-regional content exchange

Kharkiv Press Club of Reforms organized three press tours in October and December 2017 and in March 2018 to Zhytomyr, Kharkiv and Lviv oblasts for 30 journalists from different regions of Ukraine. Participants learned about the implementation of reforms at the local level, particularly decentralization, medical and educational system reforms, anti-corruption efforts, and the impact of reforms on living standards of local residents. During the press tours journalists met with local government officials and visited local decentralization offices and centers for administrative services. Roundtables with civil activists provided the press tour participants with a chance to understand local realities and establish professional contacts.

Press tour participants from Ternopil, Uzhhorod, Volyn, Zakarpattia, Dnipro, Luhansk, Donetsk, Odesa, Kherson and Sumy oblasts produced 149 media products of different types (with a total circulation of 192,900) related to implementation of reforms as a result of their visits to Zhytomyr, Kharkiv and Lviv. Those media products highlighted progress in decentralization, medical reform in rural areas, improvement of infrastructure, and small business development on a local level.

To mitigate the impact of Russian propaganda in the media environment and enhance connections among regional media leaders, Kharkiv Press Club launched a new initiative for the press tour participants – the Online Club of Regional Media Managers - which united these journalists and became a platform to discuss the role of journalists in a hybrid war and ways to counter Russian propaganda. Three Club meetings were held in Kharkiv, Poltava and Sumy.

To facilitate interregional content exchange, the press tour participants created a [Media Pool Group](#) on Facebook, which currently includes 52 journalists from 12 regions of Ukraine. The Group is a place where journalists can share information on reforms in different regions of Ukraine. This initiative also helps mitigate the impact of Russian information, since Ukrainian regional journalists have a chance to receive unbiased information from trustworthy sources – their colleagues from other regions.

2.4. Investigative Journalism

Ninth annual all-Ukrainian investigative reporting conference

On December 8-9, 2017, the Regional Press Development Institute organized the ninth all-Ukrainian conference on investigative reporting for 170 Ukrainian and international investigative journalists in Kyiv. This year's conference was supported by the European Union Anti-Corruption Initiative, Politiken-Fonden, and Internews.

The conference was titled “Investigative Journalism in the Age of Open Data and Information Warfare: Opportunities and Challenges,” and the main topics addressed were investigative journalism's ethical and professional standards, working with open data, digital security, utilizing drones in investigative reporting, and investigative journalism's effectiveness in Ukraine.

On December 9, a panel discussion was dedicated to investigative reporting in Ukraine's occupied territories. Andriy Klymenko, editor-in-chief of the Black Sea News website, and Valentyna Samar, editor-in-chief of the Crimea Investigative Reporting Center, said standards, rules, and methods applied worldwide by journalists do not work in occupied territories. Klymenko noted journalists should develop new recommendations for their colleagues working in occupied territories, and Samar noted corruption cases in occupied Donbas are currently not being investigated.

Regional investigative reporting centers' joint content production

On March 1, 2018, four regional investigative reporting (IR) centers (Mykolaiv Center for IR, Rivne Agency for IR, Crimean Center for IR [now based in Kyiv], and Kyiv IR bureau Svidomo), started a project with U-Media support to jointly produce weekly television IR stories, cross-publishing them on their website, and broadcasting them on UA:Pershy, Chornomorska TV, and Channel 24 on the “Nashi Groshi” television program.



In early March, the Crimean Center for Investigative Reporting produced the first TV investigative program for this initiative, “Sawdust of Billions”, which revealed the misuse of state funds during the reconstruction of Donbas schools by companies affiliated with MPs Boryslav Rosenblatt (single-mandate) and Maksym Yefimov (Petro Poroshenko's Bloc). One billion hryvnia from the state budget was allocated for renovating schools that were damaged during the Donbas war, but only three of them were repaired on time, allegedly due to funding

issues. Among the schools affected by this corruption scheme was the best school in Donbas region - Ukrainian gymnasium in Kramatorsk – the students of which were scattered throughout various schools after the gymnasium was damaged during the war in Donbas.

This IR segment received the highest rating during Detektor Media’s IR TV programs monitoring, scoring 24.3 out of 27 points. Monitoring experts noted the great importance of the topic, balance, adherence to professional and ethical standards, as well as the absence of hate speech in the story.

“Our Money” investigative television program

For the last six months, TOM 14 NGO – a group of investigative reporters - produced and broadcast 26 episodes of the investigative television program “Our Money with Denys Bihus” on UA: Pershy and Channel 24, exposing 38 corruption schemes by MPs, ministers, judges, prosecutors, and political parties in the process. TOM 14 also published 94 news pieces on its website.

Notable Results from “Nashi Groshi”

✓ National Anti-Corruption Bureau and Anti-Corruption Prosecutor’s Office exposed the corruption scheme of misappropriation of 149 million UAH of public funds while purchasing fuel for the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine.
✓ The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine discharged the First Deputy Head of State Migration Service of Ukraine — Dina Pimakhova.



2.5. Elections Coverage

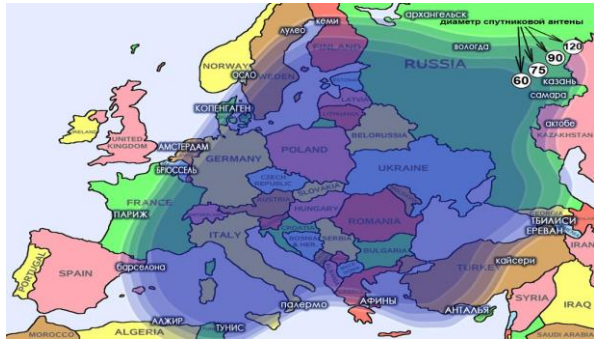
Nothing to report for this reporting period.

2.6. Crimea Content Creation and Distribution

Internews’ core partner The Information and Press Center (IPC) produced and published 24 exclusive episodes of the “National Security Issues” TV

program, including 42 television stories, 67 exclusive analytical articles, investigations and interviews, and more than 600 news stories per month on its Center for Journalist Investigations (CJI) webportal.

The “National Security Issues” program is broadcast live by Chornomorska TV on Tuesdays at 7:00-8:30 PM and rebroadcast the next morning. The program is accessible on the Chornomorska YouTube channel and in the video section of the Center for Journalist Investigations website.



Satellite coverage by Astra 4A (former Sirius)

Chornomorska TV Channel broadcasts via satellite Astra 4A (formerly Sirius 4), online and via cable networks. Satellite broadcasting is available in the territory of Crimea, and the entire mainland of Ukraine, Russia, and Europe. Since occupying authorities banned broadcasting of Chornomorska TV programs by analog and cable on the territory of Crimea, satellite broadcasting is the only way the channel can be accessed in the territory of occupied Crimea.

The largest cable operator, Volya-cable, and many local cable operators carry the TV program and serve more than 5 million viewers in 22 regions of Ukraine. Online broadcasting through the internet is available to subscribers around the world. Social Networks (Facebook, Google +, YouTube) attract additional viewers. One of the notable episodes from the reporting period was from January, about pensioners' protests in Crimea against the low pensions paid by Russian authorities during a time when prices for food have gone up.

In October 2017-March 2018, the CJI website audience increased from 20,100 to 28,600 visitors per month (on average). The following topics were covered:

- Implementation of reforms in Ukraine (administrative, land, energy independence via development of alternative energy);
- Corruption in Ukraine and the activities of anti-corruption institutions;
- Occupied Crimea and the rights of IDPs from Crimea and Donbas;
- Protection of international human rights in donor projects to rebuild Donbas and support IDPs;
- Release of the Kremlin's Ukrainian prisoners: activities of the authorities and civil society;
- Investigation and documentation of crimes committed in Crimea by the authorities of the occupying Russian Federation;
- The situation at checkpoints from/to Crimea and in the border area of the Kherson region;
- Violation of Western and Ukrainian sanctions;
- The legal side of the de-occupation of Crimea: international and national courts, investigation of military crimes by law enforcement agencies of Ukraine;
- Special judicial investigation on "Crimean affairs": CJI follows the trials of former top-Crimean politicians and officials charged with treason and separatism, as well as high-ranking military officials and politicians of the Russian Federation.

In the article "The company with a deceased owner from the Russian Federation eager to produce thermal water at the Arabatskaya Arrow for its boarding house," journalists revealed that unreliable data was disclosed about the owners of the company, a contender for obtaining a source of thermal water in the resort of the Genichesk region. After the story was published, the Kherson Regional Council withdrew the question of granting permission to the company from the Council agenda.

CJI published a number of stories about successful businesses in the closed port of Sevastopol, including the steward company Avlita, which belongs to oligarch Rinat Akhmetov. The Crimean Prosecutor's Office opened criminal proceedings against the company after analyzing facts from CJI's investigations.

After a series of publications on the "Ilmenite scheme", which described the illegal supply of raw materials to one of oligarch Dmytro Firtash's plants in Crimea through the closed port of Kerch, the prosecutor's office and the head of the SBU in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea opened a criminal proceeding. As a result, the vessel Nefterudovoz 45M and its crew were arrested at the entrance to Kherson.

CJI resumed its activities covering judicial issues, particularly related to peculiarities in the criminal investigation of former Crimean officials for treason and separatism, as well as high-ranking military and politicians of the Russian Federation for armed aggression against Ukraine. (CJI also plans to restore its Bureau of Judicial Information, which was closed after the annexation of Crimea).

As a result of its investigations into illegal commerce in Crimea, CJI's Editor-in-Chief Valentina Samar was invited to join the working group of the parliamentary committee responsible for drafting a bill with amendments for the abolition of the law on the Crimean Free Economic Zone.

Objective 3: Improve the Enabling Environment for Media and Freedom of Speech

For several years, Internews has provided support to media law advocates to effectively engage the Verkhovna Rada and government agencies in campaigns to introduce and enact several media laws. U-Media partners the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM), the Institute for Mass Information (IMI), and Internews Ukraine (IUA) played leading roles in implementing laws approved in the last year on public broadcasting, destatization of state-owned and municipal print media, and transparency of media ownership.

3.1. Advocating New Reforms in Media Sphere

Monitoring legislative initiatives for the media sector

CEDEM regularly monitored all legislative initiatives on media regulation, with special attention on those that might put restrictions on freedom of expression in Ukraine. With a view to explaining topical media legal issues, CEDEM prepared 47 publications that were posted on its website and the Facebook pages for CEDEM (4,500 subscribers) and Media Law Institute (now part of CEDEM, 4,800 subscribers) during this reporting period. As part of its legislative advocacy, on February 27, 2018, CEDEM together with other media and civil society organizations issued a public statement calling to dismiss the intelligence service's plan to install surveillance equipment at Internet providers' facilities. This statement was a response to the National Commission for Regulation of Communication and Information Technologies' approval of a draft Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers on February 20, 2018. The draft decree lays the groundwork for implementing repressive, Russian-style practices of mass Internet control and surveillance over citizens, and endangering free development of the

internet in Ukraine. CEDEM demanded a recall of the draft Decree. As of late March, the Cabinet of Ministers had not included this draft in the agenda for next meetings.

Reduction of financial barriers in court cases on restrictions of access to public information

The Institute for Mass Information (IMI)'s advocacy campaign calling for a reduction of court fees for groups appealing restrictions on access to public information, resulted in Parliament's registration of draft law #8139 "On amendments to some laws of Ukraine concerning access to justice" on March 15, 2018. The key provision of this draft law would greatly reduce fees for submitting lawsuits regarding restrictions on access to public information, as well as for advance payments to enforce verdicts in cases of restrictions of access to public information.

Security of journalists

The Institute for Mass Information (IMI) continued working with journalists traveling to the conflict area in the East of Ukraine and provided them with protective equipment. In the last six months, 23 journalists received free armored vests and helmets, which had been donated earlier to IMI by volunteer organizations. In terms of personal safety while working in the war zone, 17 consultations were provided by IMI experts to journalists in preparation for their travel to the East of Ukraine. IMI also published 10 articles (recommendations) on safety issues on its j-sos.org.ua website.

3.2. Reforms Implementation

Public Service Broadcasting

Media Reforms group of lawyers prevent rollback of public service broadcasting reform

On January 31, 2018, the Reanimation Package of Reforms (RPR) Media Reforms group (where Center for Democracy and Rule of Law's (CEDEM) lawyers play a core management role) issued a public statement calling on Parliament not to interfere with the editorial policy of the national public broadcaster. This statement was publicized in response to the Parliament of Ukraine's plan to consider draft law No.7395 (On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine Regarding Procedure for Informing Citizens about Activities of Authorities or Public Officials) during the plenary week on February 6-9, 2018. The draft law proposed to set up airtime quotas for members of Parliament (25 minutes for each of them) to deliver their reports at all branches of the national public broadcaster on a regular basis. According to CEDEM lawyers, this is, in fact, interference with public broadcaster's editorial policy, violation of international public broadcasting standards, and a rollback of the public broadcasting reform. RPR Media Reforms lawyers suggested introducing an official journal as a sort of newsletter for sharing state institutions' information – decisions, orders, etc. – and mandatory labeling of public officials' reports in non-state media. On February 7, 2018, the draft law No.7395 was called off.

Editorial Charter of public broadcaster has been approved

On February 27, 2018, the Supervisory Board of the National Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) Company approved the [Editorial](#) Charter of UA: Pershy, which sets standards for the public broadcaster's journalists regarding production and distribution of information, and regulates the editorial board's activities. The Charter was drafted by the public broadcaster's editorial board with significant contributions from CEDEM lawyers. The Charter determined the PSB's policy during elections: equal access to broadcasting for all election campaign

participants and a ban on political advertising in the pre-election periods. The Charter also states that the public broadcaster will produce analytical and discussion programs to promote public debates in Ukraine. The Editorial Charter was developed based on the Typical Charter of the TV and Radio Company developed by CEDEM experts. This document describes the basics of professional journalistic standards and principles, such as reliability and balance of information, marking of advertisements, non-interference in private life, and non-discrimination.

Destatization

Monitoring progress of destatization reform in Ukraine

CEDEM monitored the dynamics of reforming state-owned and municipal print media outlets, known as destatization. As of late February 2018, the percentage of outlets that were re-registered as independent - meaning that they had transitioned from state and municipal outlets to private outlets - was 23 (compared to 17 percent in October 2017), meaning that 172 out of 727 print outlets had completed the process. CEDEM prepared special recommendations for state authorities based on a detailed analysis of the key challenges print outlets met during the destatization process. Because of the absence of state aid for this press reform, as is called for in the destatization law, CEDEM conducted a comparative analysis of various models of state aid to print media outlets throughout Europe. By looking to best international practices, local editors of reformed print media outlets will hopefully be encouraged to find solutions to ensure the sustainability of their publications.

Regional Press Clubs facilitate destatization reform

Ternopil Press Club (TPC), in partnership with Uzhhorod, Zhytomyr, Sumy, Kherson, Lviv, Volyn, Chernihiv, Poltava, Kharkiv, and Dnipro Press Clubs, implemented activities facilitating destatization reform. Trainings for 144 journalists (86 women, 58 men) and media managers, and legal support for newspapers were the cornerstones of this assistance. Employees at the newly reformed media outlets learned about monetization, management, content production, journalistic standards, human resources management, and proposal writing.

On March 30, at the request of Lviv Press Club, Ternopil Press Club organized an urgent video bridge between Lviv and Ternopil to sound the alarm over a campaign by authorities to close the local newspaper "Ratusha." In violation of the destatization law, these local authorities – and co-owners of the paper - created a commission to liquidate the newspaper without input from the newspaper employees. To bring this plan to the public's attention and prevent it from happening, TPC and LPC organized a video bridge with the Regional Press Development Institute's lawyer Ludmyla Pankratova, the head of the information department of the Lviv Regional Council, and representatives of the "Ratusha" newspaper. During the video bridge, Pankratova confirmed that the authorities' actions did not comply with current legislation. After the bridge, the Lviv Regional Council eliminated the commission, and the newspaper continued the destatization process.

TPC's lawyer helped local newspapers to solve specific issues during the destatization process. Two hundred seventy-six legal consultations, recommendations, and explanations to editors were provided online, in writing, and via a hotline. To distribute legal advice to the wider audience, Ternopil Press Club published its recommendations in local media in 11 regions of Ukraine.

For the last six months, the TPC lawyer provided pre-trial assistance to the newspaper “Kakhovs’ka Zorya” (Kakhovka Star) in Kherson region, and the newspaper “Peremoha” (Victory) in Popilnia town of Zhytomyr region, to effectively counteract the illegal actions of local authorities. The Ternopil Press Club also published the “Practical guide for reform of state and municipal media”, which included real case examples and practical advice, to share knowledge from local newspaper managers who had encountered similar problems. Ternopil Press Club also developed a user-friendly video to describe the progress of implementing destatization reform.

Reanimation Package of Reforms’ Media-Reform Group Determined Priorities for 2018-2019

The Center for Democracy and Rule of Law continued to coordinate the “Media reform” group of the Reanimation Package of Reforms (RPR-Media). During October-December 2017, RPR-Media experts were involved in developing legislation on media coverage of elections. On November 10, 2017, CEDEM held a meeting for RPR-Media experts to develop amendments to the Draft Election Code of Ukraine #3112-1, approved by the Parliament in the first reading on November 7, 2017. On January 17, 2018 CEDEM organized a meeting of media experts and lawyers – members of RPR-Media Reform group - to discuss key reforms to advocate in 2018. Representatives of CEDEM, Institute for Mass Information (IMI), Regional Press Development Institute (RPDI), Human Rights Platform, and Detector Media (DM) participated in the discussion.

As a result, five priority goals were identified:

1. Ensuring the completion of the destatization reform
2. Support for public broadcasting in Ukraine
3. Improvement of the political advertisement regulations
4. Advocacy for the adoption of the new audiovisual law
5. Improvement of the access to public information legislation.

These goals will be included in the updated Road Map for 2018-2019, which RPR-Media Group plans to approve in April-May 2018.

3.3. Participating in Advisory Boards

A number of U-Media partners worked on state institutions’ Public Councils and/or Advisory Boards. The table below was updated in late March 2018.

#	Organization’s name	Individual members’ names	Public Councils’ name & membership type
1.	IUA	Kostyantyn Kvurt	Member of the Public Councils at (1) The Independent Media Council, (2) Expert Council under Ministry of Information Policy, (3) Ukrinform Supervisory Board
2.	IUA	Pavlo Moiseyev	Member of the Public Council of (1) the Independent Media Council, (2) Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Freedom of Speech and Information Policy, media reform expert at (1) The Reanimation

			Package of Reforms, (2) Expert Council at the Ministry of Information Policy.
3.	IUA	Yevhen Radchenko	Electoral Reform Senior expert at the Reanimation Package of Reforms
4.	IAB	Kateryna Myasnikova	Non-staff Advisor to the Head of the Public Council at the National Television and Radio Council of Ukraine
5.	IAB	Olha Bolshakova	Member of the Public Councils at (1) the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Freedom of Speech and Information Policy; (2) the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine; and (3) the National Television and Radio Council of Ukraine
6.	POID	Nataliya Belitser	The member of the joint expert group of the Social and Cultural Center “Crimean House” of the Ministry of Culture and the Majlis that develops the law on the status of IDP, migrants from Crimea in particular
7.	CEDEM	Igor Rozkladai	Member of the Public Council at the National Television and Radio Council of Ukraine
8.	CEDEM	Halyna Chyzhyk	Member of the Public Council of Integrity at the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine
9.	CEDEM	Kateryna Kulyna	Member of the Public Council at the State Television and Radio Committee of Ukraine
10.	CEDEM	Tetiana Semiletko	Member of the “Open Parliament” monitoring committee (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine)
11.	AUP	Valeriy Ivanov	Member of (1) the Public Council at the State Television and Radio Committee of Ukraine; (2) the Public Council at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Freedom of Speech and Information Policy; (3) the Journalism Ethics Commission
12.	AUP	Oksana Volosheniuk	Member of the Public Council at the National Television and Radio Council of Ukraine
13.	AUP	Andriy Kovalenko	Member of Ukrainian Internet Association Committee on Human Rights Protection and Freedom of Expression
14.	SF	Serhiy Danylenko, Chair of the SF Board	Co-Head of the Expert Council at the Ministry of Information Policy
15.	SF	Taras Petriv, SF President	Member of (1) the Expert Council at the Ministry of Information Policy; (2) the Independent Media Council
16.	IMI	Oksana Romaniuk	Member of (1) the Public Council at the National Television and Radio Council of Ukraine; (2) the Council on the <i>Protection of Professional Activities of Journalists</i> and Freedom of Speech at the Presidential Administration; (3) the Co-Chairwoman of the <i>Education and Media</i> Working Group at the <i>Equal Rights</i> Inter-Faction Association of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (4) Member of the Commission of Journalism Ethics

17.	IMI	Roman Holovenko	Member of (1) the Public Council at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Freedom of Speech and Information Policy; (2) the Public Council at the State Archive Service of Ukraine; (3) the Public Council at the Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine
18.	IMI	IMI's membership (as an organization)	Member of the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine
19.	DM	Natalia Ligachova	Member of the Public Council at the Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine
20.	DM	Halyna Petrenko	Member of the Public Council at the State Cinema Agency
21.	DM	Svitlana Ostapa	Deputy Head of the Supervisory Board of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company of Ukraine; Member of (1) the Public Council at the State Television and Radio Committee of Ukraine; (2) the Council on the <i>Protection of Professional Activities of Journalists</i> and Freedom of Speech at the Presidential Administration; (3) the Public Council at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Freedom of Speech and Information Policy
22.	DM	Vadym Miskiy	Secretary of the Supervisory Board of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company of Ukraine

Objective 4: Improve Organizational Capacity of Ukrainian Media CSOs and Outlets

U-Media works to realize the potential of the Ukrainian media for the benefit of Ukrainian citizens. Ukrainian citizens must be fully empowered with information so they can have a voice in their future and make informed choices for their families and their communities. U-Media concentrates its efforts on uniting media CSOs and news organizations as they strive to produce quality information assisting Ukraine's social, economic, and political progress. In implementing its organizational capacity development activities, U-Media invited top-quality experts and consultants to deliver state-of-the-art training to U-Media partners.

4.1. Institutional Support for Leading Media CSOs

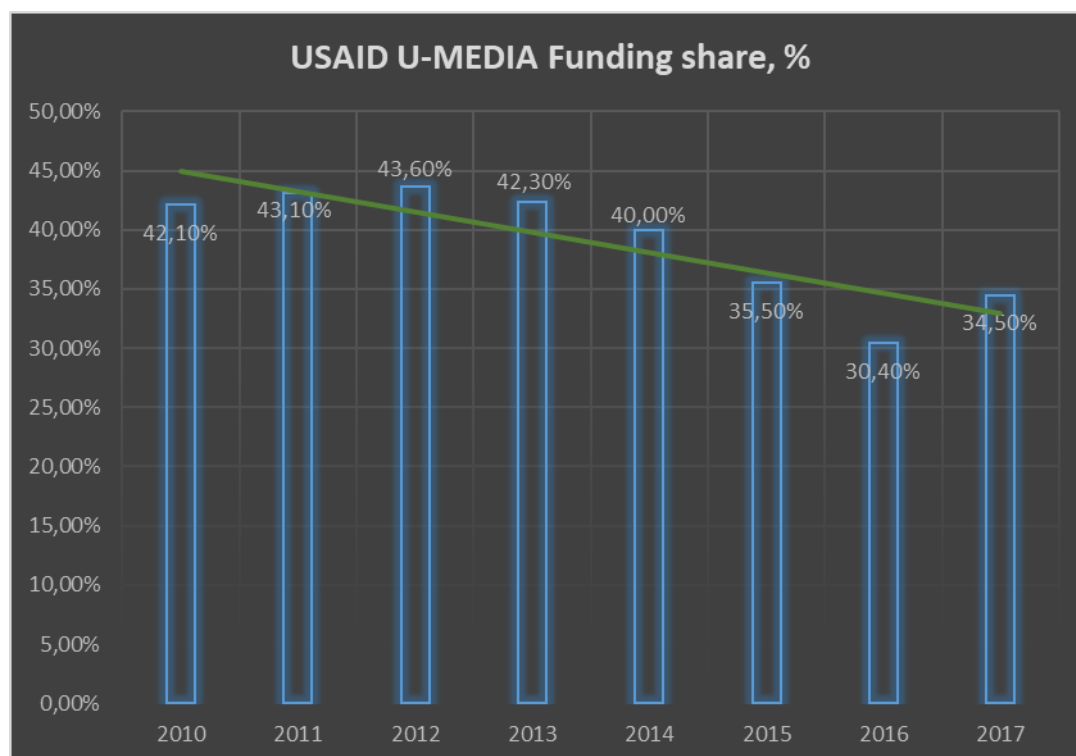
In order to advance the USAID Local Solutions initiative, Internews continued consulting with its institutional and core partners on building strong internal systems and structures, better external engagement, and networking with media outlets. Internews strived to serve as a hub for building professional relations and sharing capacity building experience between media organizations and outlets. These topics were of interest to U-Media partners at each gathering during the last six months, even if the key agenda points covered other sectoral issues. For example, on January 19, 2018, when Internews assembled representatives of its twelve core partners to brainstorm about projects for the upcoming elections period, part of the informal conversations were related to sustainability issues, especially for media outlets.

To improve partners' reporting capacity, especially related to documenting program achievements and monitoring and evaluation, U-Media program managers organized individual consultations with all grantees in February-March 2018.

An external organizational capacity assessment is planned within Objective 4 in Year 7 of the U-Media project. Nine institutional and core partners were notified that they will be part of the external assessment in June-July 2018. Traditionally, Internews has used the SATT/OSS (Seat at the Table/Organizational Systems and Standards) Index methodology to analyze partners' institutional development progress over the last seven years. The media organizations under evaluation will include: Internews Ukraine (IUA), Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM), Independent Association of Broadcasters (IAB), Regional Press Development Institute (RPDI), Detector Media (DM), Institute of Mass Information (IMI), Academy of Ukrainian Press (AUP), Suspilnist Foundation (SF), and Information Press Center (IPC).

The SATT/OSS Index methodology Internews uses to assess the level of the organizational capacity of U-Media partners was first introduced in 2009, and in 2013, 2015, and 2017, it was complemented with a self-assessment tool based on the same SATT/OSS Index methodology.

As part of its local capacity development strategy, the U-Media Project has actively worked with local partners to reduce their financial dependence on one source of funding. The Project continued to help the core partners to diversify their funding base to avoid over-reliance on one funder and to ensure long-term sustainability. U-Media funding formed 42.1% of all funds for partners in 2010, but by the 2015-2016 fiscal year, that percentage had declined to 30.4%. In 2016-2017, the average dependence on the U-Media project rose slightly to 34.5%. Internews will continue to work with the partners on strategies for building a diverse portfolio of funding.



4.2. Capacity Development for Key Media Outlets

On February 23-24, 2018, U-Media organized a two-day capacity development workshop called “Modern, System-Oriented Media Organization: Cooperation, Communication and Other Underused Resources” in Kyiv for 12 representatives (8 women, 4 men) from the management/leadership teams of six media outlets from eastern Ukraine and three media outlets from Kyiv. Five of the eastern outlets, namely Media Port, Vchasno, Telegazeta, Ltava Television and Radio Company, and UA:Sumy, received grants from the Strengthening Communication with Conflict-Affected Communities (SCCC) project, administered by Internews and funded by Global Affairs Canada (GAC). Velyky Luh radio station from Zaporizhzhia and three media outlets from Kyiv - Mirror Weekly, Svidomo, and UA:Pershy - are U-Media grantees. The goal of the workshop was to develop the leadership skills of the media managers, impart effective communication techniques to effectively serve the company’s internal staff and external customers, raise the managers’ awareness of marketing and fundraising tools and the importance of building an organizational culture that supports the successful implementation of the organization’s institutional strategy.

The interactive workshop included many group discussions, Q&A sessions, practical tasks, and the innovative “Design Thinking Marathon” tool, which helps to generate new ideas within the company through brainstorming, internal assessment, internal group discussions, etc. The trainers were: Natalia Kadja, CEO of Marhenko Danevych law company and instructor in organizational development at the Lviv Business School at the Ukrainian Catholic University; Taras Ilkiv, Head of Digital at Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Ukrainian Service; and Kateryna Akymenko, Business Development Manager, [Changers](#), Leadership Consultancy, and Co-Founder & Consultant, Yes & Design company.

4.3. Self-regulation

Several U-Media partners are members of the Independent Media Council (IMC) – an independent, voluntary self-regulatory assembly that evaluates professional standards and ethics in the Ukrainian media. On December 26, 2017, in its report during a meeting in Kyiv marking the group’s second anniversary, the IMC evaluated several cases from 2017 in which the state regulator (the National Television and Radio Council) warned television channels that had violated Ukrainian legislation. Among these cases were:

- In late 2016, the IMC analyzed the STB channel’s programs “The One for Everybody,” “Fight of Persons with Extrasensory Perception,” “House On Father,” and “Master Chief.” It found that the program violated the law of Ukraine On Television and Radio Broadcasting’s Article 6, which doesn’t allow for programs that may be harmful for children to be broadcast between 6:00 AM and 11:00 PM. In addition, the program “Fight of Persons with Extrasensory Perception” contained a scene depicting direct violence against teenagers.
- In May 2017, the IMC found that the documentary “Oles’ Buzyna: Life Beyond Time” by the Kharkiv Horizon enterprise inflamed hatred between nations and religions, as well as violated standards of information objectiveness. Oles’ Buzyna was a scandalous Ukrainian writer who was killed in 2015 under strange conditions.
- In October 2017, the IMC announced that the Inter channel violated the law of Ukraine On Television and Radio Broadcasting’s Article 6, which addresses information that violates individuals’ legal rights. The IMC also found that anchor Andriy Danylevych was not delicate or careful while introducing topics related to

children, which is a violation of Article 18 of the Ukrainian journalists' ethics code. The program in question was about a 12-year girl who had given birth.

- In October 2017, the IMC announced that the NewsOne television channel violated journalistic standards of accuracy, reliability, and balance of information when it broadcasted a segment with fake information on hearings at the U.S. Congress about corruption at the National Bank of Ukraine. The IMC declared that NewsOne violated the law and misinformed viewers.

Along with self-regulation, Internews is considering a co-regulation mechanism introduced by the Independent Association of Broadcasters (IAB) at the National Media Talk as an opportunity for cooperation between the state regulators and the media industry to promote professional standards and ethics.

Both self-regulation and co-regulation mechanisms need more discussion within the media sector, especially as elections approach and balanced media coverage of candidates and parties will be of great importance to free and fair elections.

4.4. Interdisciplinary and Networking Activities for Media CSOs and Outlets

Media Discussion “Trust in Media: More Voice and Less Noise”

On March 28, 2018, U-Media hosted the media discussion “Trust in Media: More Voice and Less Noise” in Kyiv, focused on journalists' professionalism, trust in media, and self-regulation issues. This discussion was a follow-up to the National Media Talk that Internews, hosted in November 2017 in Kyiv. Forty-two journalists, media workers, representatives of media and civil society organizations met to discuss whether there are links between trust and quality of media content, what the roles of traditional and social media are in conducting public dialogue, how media can help improve public and political discourse in Ukraine, the relationship between the authorities and the media, and how journalists can cooperate to sustain a healthy media system in Ukraine.

Taras Petriv, President of Suspilnist Foundation, member of the Independent Media Council, and Associate Professor at the Institute of Journalism, National Taras Shevchenko University, moderated the discussion.

Panelists were:

- Natalia Ligachova, Chairwoman, Detector Media
- Yulia Mostova, Editor-in-Chief, The Mirror Weekly newspaper
- Oleksandr Bohutskiy, President, ICTV
- Roman Vintoniv, Board Member of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company

Natalia Ligachova talked about professional ethics during an information war, and the need for journalists to deliver truth to the audience. Ligachova supported constructive journalism that offers solutions for challenging issues and makes the entire media environment less tense in a time of war. She also raised the issue of the current crisis at the National Union of Journalists of Ukraine and encouraged the media community to launch a discussion about a new professional organization uniting journalists.

One of Yulia Mostova's key messages was about journalists' professionalism and their need for dedication to their mission in society, rather than publishing paid media stories to overcome their own economic difficulties. Mostova also mentioned that the new media self-regulatory organization should be created by managers for journalists, instead of by journalists on their own, as journalists are often reluctant to unite on their own.

Olexandr Bohutskiy focused on the state of television in Ukraine, noting the non-transparency of ownership in TV but also acknowledging that oligarch owners do not always intend to negatively influence the station's content. He stated that Ukraine now needs Ukrainian-made television content, movies, and documentaries, in particular. He also emphasized the importance of the public broadcaster for Ukraine and encouraged cultivating communication between citizens and this broadcaster, reminding those in attendance that PSB exists mostly at the expense of Ukrainian taxpayers.

Roman Vintoniv explained the communication structure between media and media consumers in societies with a low level or absence of trust beyond small family units. Vintoniv's message was that truth in media, instead of paid stories and manipulations, helps build trust. At the same time, absence of trust leads to disintegration of social groups and society as a whole.

Media Research

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Within the reporting period Internews organized tenders, pre-selected research companies, and conducted administrative work to launch field research activities. The following research work will be done during spring-summer 2018:

- Media literacy research: telephone and online survey of coordinators working in the Regional Institutes of Postgraduate Pedagogical Education to assess their experience in guiding the media education implementation process within their oblasts; telephone survey of media education course teachers in secondary schools; in-depth interviews with schools' administrative personnel (principals, assistant principals); focus group discussions with young children and high school pupils who have taken the media education course. Media literacy coordinators and schools involved in this media literacy research are partners of the Academy of Ukrainian Press (AUP). The research will take place in May 2018.
- Annual media consumption survey: evaluation of popular preferences in media consumption, ways of accessing information, trust in media, and satisfaction with media coverage of main reforms. This is a nationwide survey conducted through in-depth interviews (over 4,000 respondents) and focus group discussions. The field work will take place in May-June 2018.
- Annual survey of journalists: online survey of 250 journalists to assess their attitudes toward their role as journalists and journalism standards, censorship and *jeansa*. Journalists will also discuss working conditions and their physical and cyber security. The survey will take place in late spring-summer 2018

Results of the research will be available in August 2018.

Communication & Coordination

Weekly Briefer

U-Media packages program and partner updates into a weekly email covering significant events affecting the Ukrainian media, including legislative changes, industry developments, journalists' court cases, public events, and labor actions. From October 2017 to March 2018, Internews published 25 *Weekly Briefers* focusing on media industry reform, the transition of the UA: Pershy channel into Ukraine's first public service broadcaster, violations of journalists' rights, journalists' safety while working in the war zone in eastern Ukraine, the information war with Russia, media coverage of Ukraine's European Union integration efforts, and the general media environment in Ukraine.

The *Weekly Briefer* is distributed to a wide audience, including USAID, the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Embassy's Kyiv staff, the European Union delegation to Ukraine, and Ukraine-based international donor and implementing organizations.

Monthly Look-Ahead

U-Media collects activity plans for the month ahead from each of its partners and distributes a consolidated monthly calendar to a wide audience, including USAID, the State Department, the U.S. Embassy/Kyiv staff, and locally-based international donor and implementing organizations.

The *Internews in Ukraine* website offers news about Internews partner activities in media monitoring, journalist training, media literacy, and media law reform. The website is connected with the *U-Media Facebook page*. The "Our partners" section informs readers about Internews' partners. "What we do" provides information about media developments, and the "Our results" section (under "Who we are") illustrates Internews' activities through infographics and tangible success stories. The "Media monitoring" *electronic library* features the monitoring results of national and regional television, radio, print, and online media by four U-Media partners – the Institute of Mass Information, Detector Media, the Academy of Ukrainian Press, and the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy.

Media and Civil Society Donor Coordination

U-Media conducted and participated in the following meetings and discussions with partners and donors from October 2017 through March 2018:

- **October 2017 – March 2018** – Internews participated in the regular media and civil society donors' meetings organized by USAID, the Canadian Embassy, and the Council of Europe. The reform agenda, assistance to Ukraine's independent media in a challenging environment, assistance to UA: Pershy in its transformation to a public service broadcaster, and general media literacy have been the priority topics for donor discussions over the past six months.
- **December 6, 2017** – Internews representatives participated in a discussion organized by Freedom House about the current projects for Donbas and ideas for further activities in the East of Ukraine. Among the participants there were representatives of the US Embassy in Ukraine, Freedom House, the EU Delegation to Ukraine, Donetsk Institute for Information, and other groups.

- **January 19, 2018** – Internews organized a brainstorming session with partners to discuss project ideas for the upcoming election period. Countering Russian disinformation, voters’ education, and advocating changes to election legislation were mentioned among priorities.
- **March 16, 2018** – U-Media participated in a “Friends of the Public Broadcaster” meeting organized by the National Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) Company for a group of international media donors. PSB introduced a catalogue of content production projects, next steps in the company’s restructuring, and its strategy (its vision: to make Ukraine act as a team; its goal: to be the most innovative media in Ukraine; its motto: to talk about important things in friendly formats).

Advisory Board

From October 2017 through March 2018, U-Media conducted individual consultations with the Advisory Board (AB) and included AB members in the expert commission evaluating applications for the Small Grants program in December 2017. Internews also encouraged Advisory Board members to seek out advice from U-Media team members on various topics, such as media monitoring methodologies, self-regulation mechanisms in the media sector, content production for the East and South of Ukraine, institutional support of media outlets, types of professional and networking events for media organizations and outlets, etc.

The current Internews Advisory Board is:

1. Andriy Shevchenko (Ukrainian Ambassador to Canada)
2. Oleh Rybachuk (Chair of the Board, Center UA)
3. Ihor Kohut (Chief of Party, USAID RADA Program)
4. Maksym Savanevsky (Editor-in-chief, Watcher.com.ua)
5. Victoria Marchenko (USAID AOTR)
6. Inna Pidluska (Deputy Director, International Renaissance Foundation)
7. Tetyana Sylina (Journalist, Weekly Mirror)
8. Oles Goian (Chief of the TV and Radio Department in the Kyiv National T. Shevchenko University’s Institute of Journalism)
9. Vlad Ionescu (First Secretary – Development; Global Affairs Canada)

Challenges

- Internews Ukraine’s online Ukraine World group continued to be a credible information source for international audiences about the conditions in Ukraine during the information war with the Kremlin. Although the closed group grew to 228 members, and Internews Ukraine continued to widen the audience through a [Ukraine World website](#) in English, only a few international online outlets re-published the group’s analytical articles. To increase the number of re-posts and the use of the publications, in FY 2018 Internews Ukraine has been promoting the website during presentations of its products to international audiences in Ukraine and abroad. Internews Ukraine also focused on producing videos, audio podcasts, and infographics for the Ukraine World group and website to reach a larger audience and encourage more sharing of its content internationally.
- Public service broadcasting (PSB) development continues to be one of the top priorities for Internews in Ukraine. Despite the 50 percent underfunding from Ukraine’s state budget, the managing team of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company of Ukraine, who

came to office after the election of the chair of the board Zurab Alasania in April 2016, made significant progress in the company's restructuring and replacement of outdated content with innovative programming. The PSB team's enthusiasm is promising, but lack of funds for content production has become a significant challenge for them. To help PSB overcome this challenge, in FY 2018 U-Media is supporting the innovative ChereShchur late-night show, which discusses ongoing reforms in a satirical and entertaining manner. In early 2018, PSB re-established an endowment foundation to receive donor assistance, and Internews (through U-Media) gave a new grant for the public broadcaster to continue producing the late night show in May-July 2018. The format of this satirical "infotainment" program will contain more explanatory interviews with high-level experts about Ukraine's transformation to full democracy, mixed with performances by young singers and dancers promoting contemporary Ukrainian culture.

- Launched by Internews in May 2017, the media monitoring e-library, which consolidates media monitoring results, served to harmonize the presentation of research by four U-Media partner monitoring organizations – Detector Media, the Academy of Ukrainian Press, the Institute for Mass Information, and the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy. However, the e-library has failed to attract a readership thus far. To spread the word about this innovative repository, Internews has included information about the media monitoring library in its weekly briefer. Media monitoring organizations also promoted this resource at their joint press conference in late 2017, where they announced the results of their media monitoring on the national and regional levels. The issue of packaging and distribution of media monitoring results has also become part of U-Media's media literacy programming for different audiences. Internews and its partners are still in search of the most efficient way to increase the readership of these professional reports, as well as a methodology for how best to apply media monitoring results to media literacy projects.
- While working on Objective 4 of the U-Media project, the improvement of institutional capacity of media support organizations (NGOs) and outlets, Internews found that media support organizations are more sustainable than media companies because the organizations have developed stronger skills in writing proposals and managing projects in order to generate revenue. Media outlets, on the other hand, have traditionally existed on advertising revenues to remain financially solvent. However, since the ad market has dissipated in recent years, media outlets have struggled to attract different sources of funding. To teach media outlets how to work with donors and diversify their activities to increase their sustainability, Internews organized institutional development workshops for joint audiences of media organizations and outlets, and provided outlets with individual consultations.

Mandatory Factors

Gender

Internews is committed to maintaining and promoting gender equality in all of its projects, including the U-Media project. While implementing an array of reforms, the Government of Ukraine demonstrated that gender equality is among its priorities. However, challenges remain related to the lack of gender equality in national policy and administrative reform; the non-integration of gender in national statistics, monitoring, and evaluation of government

programs; and the lack of donor coordination to mainstream gender into development programs.

During the last six months, several U-Media partners promoted gender equality within their projects.

Volyn Press Club took the lead in promotion of gender-balanced media

On December 22, 2017, 47 journalists in 11 oblasts signed a declaration committing to the production of gender-balanced content and avoiding gender stereotypes and sexism while producing media products. In her article for the Institute for Mass Information's website, head of Volyn Press Club Bohdana Stelmakh wrote, "To get rid of sexism and discriminatory practices, changes in journalists' consciousness should happen and editorial policies should encourage doing so. Even the best law on gender-sensitive journalism will not help if there is no support, understanding, and willingness to implement it. We propose to use gender-sensitive journalism and non-discrimination standards. If you belong to a group of journalists who are ready to make the media environment gender-sensitive, please sign the declaration, and we are happy to cooperate."

The gender-sensitive journalism initiative was launched in 2013 in Volyn with the Internews-implemented USAID U-Media project's support. The initiative has now expanded to additional Ukrainian regions.

As part of its gender awareness campaign, VPC conducted gender media cafés in eight cities of Ukraine: Rivne, Ternopil, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zaporizhzhia, Vinnytsia, Dnipro, and Kropyvnytskyi. At these cafes, 91 regional media journalists, bloggers, and social media activists received information about the results of gender sensitivity media monitoring conducted by Volyn Press Club and its partners in 22 regions of Ukraine. More than 90,000 media stories were analyzed – 20,000 print and 70,000 online – for gender bias. The usage of phrases representing gender was quite different among the regions – from zero percent in Kherson (ex. pronouns "he" or "she" were never used) to 51 percent in Odesa. The percentage of phrases determining gender was 27 percent in print newspapers and 28 percent in online editions. Data about the level of gender sensitivity of regional media also became part of a report (made in March 2018) that covered the state of implementation of the UN Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) principles.

As a result of its research, VPC also prepared and published the handbook "Gender sensitivity of Ukrainian media", which will be officially presented during its gender media forum in July-August 2018.

Institute for Mass Information researched attitudes towards women in media

Before International Women's Day on March 8, the Institute for Mass Information (IMI) conducted two studies: 1) on the level of representation of women in Ukrainian online media, and 2) on the level of safety of women journalists. The first study showed that the number of mentions about women in media had doubled during the past four years. The second showed that the main work-related threats for women journalists were intimidation and internet trolling.

Documentary about women in Donbas war contributed to approval in first reading of the law on women and men's equal rights in the military service

On October 15, 2017, just after the Defender's Day in Ukraine (October 13), a television premiere of the "Invisible Battalion" documentary, which presented six stories about women in the Donbas war, took place on 1+1 TV channel (estimated audience – 750,000 people). The documentary was produced by the Institute for Gender Studies. Despite of an array of administrative challenges with this partner, the project contributed to increasing Ukrainians' awareness about women in the military and became one of the key factors that facilitated the submission to Parliament of the draft law #6109 On Amendments to Ukraine's Legislation On Ensuring Equal Rights for Women and Men for Service in the Military of Ukraine. The bill, which was approved in first reading at the Parliament in December 2017, allows women to serve in the military in the same positions as men and to receive an official military servant status. Previously, women who served in the military in the East of Ukraine officially served as kitchen workers, sewers, librarians, etc.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI)

Journalism of Tolerance Training

On January 11-12, 2018, the Kyiv Post's Media Development Foundation (MDF) organized a two-day training titled "Journalism of Tolerance: Balanced Coverage of Minorities and Vulnerable Groups' Issues." This workshop, now in its third year, attracted 25 regional journalists (16 women, 9 men) throughout Ukraine.

On the first day, trainers Alyona Zhuk, the Kyiv Post lifestyle editor, and Oksana Grytsenko, the Kyiv Post war correspondent, shared their insights on how to write about minorities and vulnerable groups. The second day was designed as a series of four interactive press conferences featuring Ukrainian NGO representatives, including HIV-positive activists, an LGBTI activist, and those from organizations protecting the human rights of people with disabilities and helping people affected by the armed conflict in Ukraine.

Speaking after the training, Alexander Kutsevol, a journalist working for the Informant web portal in Dnipro, said it was a "very useful training.... This was absolutely useful for both beginners and those journalists who are aware of the topics. Thank you very much for contacting organizations and bringing in activists — the real people who shared their passion for tolerance with us, the participants."

Sustainability

To ensure long-term sustainability of program efforts and, ultimately, free media in Ukraine, U-Media continued implementing capacity building activities under Objective Four. U-Media supported the growth and independence of leading media CSOs and contributed to strengthening the business capacity of selected media outlets through organizational training (in February 2018), ongoing consultations with Internews managers, and networking events for Internews partners.

Anti-Corruption

U-Media partner TOM 14 produced a series of investigative reports about the corruption schemes of Ukraine's public officials, which became parts of the "Nashi Hroshi" ("Our Money") television programs broadcast on UA:Pershy (public broadcaster) and Channel 24.

On March 1, 2018, four regional investigative reporting (IR) centers (Mykolaiv Center for IR, Rivne Agency for IR, Crimean Center for IR (now based in Kyiv), and Kyiv IR bureau Svidomo), started a project with U-Media support to jointly produce weekly television IR stories, which will be cross-published on their websites, and broadcast on UA:Pershy, Chornomorska TV, and Channel 24. In March, the Crimean Center for IR produced the first story for this initiative, about a corruption scheme related to renovation of schools damaged during the Donbas war. See Activity 2.4 for more details.

Integration with other USAID initiatives

During the last six months, Internews pursued cross-sectoral cooperation and integration with other USAID initiatives at every opportunity.

On March 19, 2018, Internews met with the USAID Agriculture and Rural Development Support (ARDS) Project communication staff to discuss joint efforts in communicating messages about land reform to Ukrainians. The two projects agreed that regional press clubs that are current U-Media grantees will participate in roundtables organized by the ARDS project during the next six months. These press clubs will also provide local journalists with land reform status information, which will encourage them to produce quality content on the topic.

On February 23-24, 2018, USAID's Initiative to Support Social Action Yednannya (ISAR-Ednannya), took part in the U-Media organizational development training in Kyiv for five media outlets from eastern Ukraine and three media outlets from Kyiv city. ISAR-Ednannya distributed their information about capacity building assistance opportunities through Marketplace. Marketplace is a platform that provides mechanisms for strengthening direct professional relationships between providers of institutional development services and NGOs that need these types of services.

On February 5, 2018, Internews met with the USAID Decentralization Offering Better Results and Efficiency (DOBRE) project's deputy chief of party to coordinate media and communication efforts between U-Media and DOBRE. The meeting resulted in the mutual agreement that regional journalists cooperating with press clubs in the regions will be invited to or included in the DOBRE media database to participate in press events organized by DOBRE's partner Ukraine Media Crisis Center in Kharkiv, Dnipro, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Kropyvnytsky (Kirovohrad Oblast), Ivano-Frankivsk, and Ternopil.

In December 2017–January 2018, U-Media coordinated with the USAID PACT/ENGAGE project regarding further support for content production at the National Public Service Broadcasting (PSB). The U-Media and ENGAGE teams each support very different programs featuring the same TV personality – Michael Shchur. The program supported by U-Media, the *ChereShchur* Late Night Show, introduced Ukrainians to reforms in different sectors through informal interviews with high-level officials. The show supported by PACT/ENGAGE, titled *#@)Hr?\$0 with Michael Shchur*, is presented as a satirical “news” program that lampoons Ukrainian officials and newsmakers, similar to the U.S. program “The Daily Show.” These programs were designed to complement one another while anchoring a robust and youth-oriented broadcast schedule that will develop over the coming months as UA: Pershy reforms and prepares to attract a new and younger national viewership.

ATTACHMENT 1: LIST OF SUBGRANTS

U-Media Partners

List of Subgrants, U-Media, updated in MARCH 2018

U-Media Partners

	Subgrantee name	Contact information	Project Title	Duration	Award	Brief Description
1	Internews Ukraine (IUA)	Natalia Pedchenko, executive director; Kostyantyn Kvurt, chair of the board	<i>Institutional Partner Subgrant to Internews Ukraine</i>	Dec 1, 2016 – Aug 31, 2018	\$272,088	U-Media supports Internews Ukraine on issues affecting the Ukrainian media community and society as a whole: increasing Ukrainians' media literacy which guards against potential media manipulations and propaganda; communicating with international audiences; production and distribution of infographics promoting media monitoring results as well as debunking Kremlin disinformation; and, raising journalists' awareness of ongoing reforms in Ukraine.
2	Detector Media (DM)	Natasha Ligachova, chair of the board	<i>Institutional Partner Subgrant to Detector Media</i>	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$179,610	U-Media supports Detector Media to implement media monitoring and media literacy activities under U-Media Objective 1. Target audiences include journalists, media experts and analysts, public officials, media NGOs and bloggers. Potential beneficiaries include these target audiences and Ukrainian citizens indirectly benefitting from higher quality of media content and results of TV and radio media monitoring.
3	Independent Association of Broadcasters (IAB)	Kateryna Myasnikova, executive director	<i>Industry Events for Improvement of Media Sector</i>	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$155,113	U-Media supports the Independent Association of Broadcasters in promoting media reform and bringing best international practices to the Ukrainian media, as well as organizing the National Media Talk on November 2-3, 2017. The project contributes to better conditions for digital transition, high quality reporting of convergent media and creating quality journalism in the media environment.
4	Regional Press Development Institute (RPDI)	Olga Trufanova, executive director	<i>Legal Support and Raising Journalists' Professionalism</i>	Nov 1, 2016 – Oct 31,	115,586	U-Media supports the Regional Press Development Institute to increase regional journalists' legal awareness, access to professional legal advice and defence, increase investigative reporting quality, raise

				2017; Mar 1-Aug 31, 2018		journalists' awareness of decentralization reform and local budget monitoring, and organize an annual international investigative reporting conference in Kyiv.
5	Academy of Ukrainian Press (AUP)	Valeriy Ivanov, president; Andriy Kovalenko, executive director,	Promoting Critical Thinking and High Journalism Professional Standards	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$170,081	U-Media supports the Academy of Ukrainian Press to improve media literacy in the professional community and among media consumers. AUP conducts content analysis of broadcast news on Ukrainian national TV channels and informs the public about the quality of content produced and its compliance with journalistic standards. AUP incorporates media literacy into courses and programs designed for primary schools and high schools and trains students and faculty members at teachers-training universities, high school teachers and media literacy instructors on how to develop critical thinking skills. AUP works with journalists to help in their professional development to produce high-quality media content. AUP is organizing the 6th annual media literacy conference "National Talk: Media Literacy and Critical Thinking in Ukraine" for around 150 educators, journalists, public officials, and media literacy activists and a series of seminars on critical thinking for school teachers.
6	Institute of Mass Information (IMI)	Oksana Romanyuk, executive director	Building the Culture of Responsible Journalism and Journalist Safety in Ukraine	Jan 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$213,300	U-Media supports the Institute for Mass Information to promote freedom of expression and independence in Ukraine's news media; news quality improvement, specifically in online media; critical consumption of news by Ukrainians; protect journalists' rights under the law; promote journalism professionalism, adherence to professional standards; oppose paid news; support regional media and journalists through trainings and information campaigns; advocate and facilitate media reforms, and promote media sector self-regulation.
7	NGO "TOM 14"	Denys Bigus	Anti-Corruption Investigative TV Program "Nashi"	Feb 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$87,664	NGO "TOM 14" – A group of investigative reporters, including Alina Stryzhak, Alisa Iurchenko, Nadiia Burdei, Lesia Ivanova and Denys Bigus, produced 16 anti-corruption investigative TV programs on "Nashi Hroshi" ("Our Money") highlighting corruption schemes at all levels of

			<i>Hroshi</i> ("Our Money")			Ukraine's state institutions and explaining their influence on financial losses for every Ukrainian. Reporting priorities are the economy and public procurement. The chief writer and presenter is Denys Bigus. The TV programs are broadcast on UA: Pershy , Channel 24 and Hromadske.ua (online). Text versions of investigations are open for reporting by online media.
8	Volyn Press Club (VPC)	Bohdana Stelmakh	<i>Gender Space of Modern Journalism: From Theory to Practice</i>	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$38,681	U-Media supports Volyn Press Club to raise local residents' awareness of gender sensitive issues and enhance gender sensitivity of journalists from different regions of Ukraine. The project's objective is to establish cooperation between regional journalists toward a gender component in their work, improve news content quality for different formats (TV, radio, Internet and print) and reduce gender stereotypes. Volyn Press Club selected six regional press clubs to be partners within this project. VPC works closely with the international charitable foundation, Ukrainian Women's Fund, using their expertise and disseminating results of the project activities through the network. A journalist contest on gender topics (organized within the project) facilitates production and distribution of gender sensitive content in 22 regions of Ukraine.
9	Suspilnist (Society) Foundation (SF)	Taras Petriv, President	<i>Media Mobility Hub</i>	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$113,910	U-Media supports the Suspilnist Foundation to develop a new generation of responsible and skilled media professionals through internships for journalism students and young professionals. SF encourages professional development of young journalists, promotes closer cooperation between higher education in journalism institutions and media outlets and organizes a pool of young professionals who will work for the National Public Broadcaster. To bring a young generation of journalists to the media industry, the Suspilnist Foundation engages the Young Journalists' Advisory Group (Media Mobility Hub alumni) to Independent Media Council's activities.
10	Center for Democracy and	Vita Volodovska	<i>Implementation of Media Reforms and Legal Protection of</i>	Jan 1, 2017 –	\$132,616	U-Media supports the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law to facilitate implementation of media reforms, improve the media legislative

	Rule of Law (CEDEM)		Journalists in Ukraine	Aug 31, 2018		framework, provide legal protection to and raise the legal literacy of Ukrainian journalists.
11	Information Press Center (IPC)	Valentyna Samar	Crimea Content Creation and Distribution	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$113,681	U-Media supports the Information and Press Center - Simferopol (IPC, now based in Kyiv) for Crimea content creation and distribution. The IPC's Center for Journalist Investigations' (CJI) portal, http://investigator.org.ua/ , continues as a source of reliable news and high-quality multimedia content on Crimean issues for different target audiences – Crimean residents, residents of Ukraine and other countries, international human rights organizations, anti-corruption organizations and central government departments addressing Crimea and IDPs from Crimea. IPC produces a weekly one and a half hour analytical TV program focusing on Crimea – “National Security Issues” – which is broadcast live on <i>Chornomorska TV</i> (available on cable in mainland Ukraine, online and via satellite) and publicized through the IPC's YouTube Channel.
12	The Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy” (POID)	Svitlana Yeremenko, Executive director	Regional Media Monitoring and Promotion of Media Literacy	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$159,060	<p>U-Media supports the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy to continue its regular content monitoring in the regional print and online media, keep media accountable to its audience and the public informed about media quality. POID has been playing a leading role in regional media monitoring for the last several years. Currently, POID's 25 experts monitor 64 regional media publications (print and Internet) in eight regions. This is the largest monitoring sample among the four U-Media monitoring partners.</p> <p>In 2017, POID and three other monitoring partners expanded the subject of monitoring: in addition to searching for paid material (jeansa) and cases of violations of professional standards, POID's experts analyze regional topics and propaganda, misinformation, and manipulation. Results are presented through the consolidated U-Media monitoring e-library.</p>

13	Kharkiv Press Club of Market Reforms (KPCMR)	Lyudmyla Dolya	Coverage of Reforms in Ukraine by Regional Media	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$50,154	U-Media supports Kharkiv Press Club of Market Reforms to raise local residents' awareness of reform implementation – in particular, decentralization and anti-corruption influence on overall living standards, such as quality of medical services, education and transportation services. Overcoming negative stereotypes formed by Russian propaganda TV channels are among the priorities. The project forms pools of journalists to participate in inter-regional exchanges and build a platform for discussions about the role of journalists in a society under the conditions of hybrid war. Press clubs in Sumy, Dnipro, Kherson, Ternopil, Lutsk and Uzhhorod partner with the Kharkiv Press Club.
14	Ternopil Press Club (TPC)	Anzhela Kardynal	Support of Regional Print Media During De-Statization Reform	Jan 1, 2017 – Aug 31, 2018	\$80,907	The U-Media provides Ternopil Press Club with a subgrant to support local municipal newspapers in five regions of Ukraine during destatization reform. After the Cabinet of Ministers approved a list of newspapers reforming during the first stage, the role of legal advisors grew significantly. Each news organization chose its individual path of reform because of unique conditions. To meet these challenges, TPC, in partnership with Uzhhorod, Zhytomyr, Sumy and Kherson Press Clubs implemented activities facilitating destatization reform: Trainings was provided for journalists and media managers and legal support for newspapers. TPC publicizes best practices of the destatization process on the partner press clubs' websites, Facebook pages and in regional media.
19	NGO Hromadske TV: Cherkasy	Oleksiy Khutornyy	Content Production on Reforms	May 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018	\$15,188	U-Media supports Hromadske TV: Cherkasy to produce a series of TV programs raising local residents' awareness of progress in implementing judicial, education system, public procurement, healthcare and government decentralization reforms, including the impact on Ukrainians' living standards. Concrete examples, and expert and public officials' comments will be part of the TV programming.
20	Charitable Organization "International Charitable Fund"	Mariya Tymoshuk	Media Literacy for Youth in Odesa Oblast	May 1- Dec 31, 2017	\$ 6,066	U-Media supported "International Charitable Fund Impact Hub Odesa" (IH Odesa) to increase the level of media literacy of youth in Odesa Oblast. Objectives were to cultivate critical thinking in news consumption and raise awareness of news production for the news media.

	Impact Hub Odesa”					
21	NGO «Institute of Political Information», Odesa (IPI)	Oleksandr Zamkovi	Raising Public Awareness of Reforms in the South of Ukraine	May 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018	\$21,949	U-Media supports an NGO “Institute of Political Information” (IPI) to raise residents’ awareness in the southern regions of Ukraine regarding reforms implementation and their influence on Ukrainians’ living standards. Among reforms to be covered: decentralization, education and healthcare. Overcoming negative stereotypes formed by Russian propaganda in the south of Ukraine will one of the objectives. The scope of work includes content production and journalist training.
24	Ltd. “TRC Rivne-1” (R1TV)	Vlasyuk Oksana	Voice of Community	May 1, 2017 - May 31, 2018	\$16,920	U-Media supports the Ltd. “TRC Rivne-1” to implement a multimedia project “Voice of Community” that strengthens citizens’ involvement in local community development and facilitates effective interaction between citizens and local authorities during decentralization reform. R1TV uses a mobile TV station to broadcast from studios in small towns of Rivne Oblast while organizing interactive platforms for communication between citizens, authorities and experts discussing decentralization.
25	YATB Television and Radio Company, LLC, Kherson	Svitlana Kyreyeva	REFORMA.UA	May 1- October 31, 2017	\$ 8,118	U-Media supported the YATB Television and Radio Company in Kherson to produce a series of TV programs raising local residents’ awareness of reforms implementation on a local level. The focus was on energy efficiency, agriculture, medicine and education which directly affect Ukrainians’ living standards. The grant funded production of a series of thematic information and analytical TV stories and talk shows and publicizing them online through the YATB TV channel. The programs facilitated constructive dialogue between citizens and authorities in charge for reforms.
26	LLC “ZN.ua”, “Mirror Weekly. Ukraine”	Yulia Mostova, editor-in-chief, “Weekly Mirror”	Raising Public Awareness of Reforms. Media Discourse on Reintegration of Donbas	April 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018	\$169,209	U-Media supports the Weekly Mirror newspaper http://dt.ua , http://gazeta.dt.ua , http://zn.ua , http://gazeta.zn.ua to produce and publish a series of analytical articles about the most urgent reforms in Ukraine. Constitutional reform; electoral legislation; decentralization; judicial reform; economic competition and monopoly prevention; transparency in public finances; combating corruption and money laundering; education; healthcare; energy; transparent privatization of

						<p>state property; land market; armed forces and defense industry reform are all covered. Articles explain the necessity, milestones and indicators of reform, current status and prospects, a parliamentary update, factors promoting and blocking reforms as well as international best practices.</p> <p>Analytical articles are published weekly in both Ukrainian and Russian language newspapers, on four websites of the MW group and distributed via Facebook and newsletters. MW publications form an agenda for government officials, MPs, opinion makers and citizen activists and shape public opinion in Ukraine, generate high-level discussions about and promote better understating of the reforms' objectives and consequences for officials and society at large.</p>
29	NGO "Media Development Foundation", Kyiv (MDF for Kyiv Post)	Daryna Shevchenko	Journalism of Tolerance	May 1, 2017 - August 31, 2018	\$23,542	<p>U-Media supports the "Media Development Foundation" (http://mdf.org.ua/) NGO at the Kyiv Post newspaper to cover the issues of LGBTI, ethnic minorities, war veterans, disabled people, people with special needs, and other vulnerable groups' issues of which are in need of societal empathy and support.</p>
30	NGO "Center for Research on Donbas Social Perspectives" (CRDSP)	Serhiy Harmash	Raising Awareness of Reforms in the East of Ukraine	June 1- October 31, 2017	\$ 4,300	<p>U-Media supported the Center for Research on Donbas Social Perspectives to raise local residents' awareness of reforms implementation in the east of Ukraine. Issues covered are decentralization, medical services, education and transportation services. Objectives include overcoming negative stereotypes about Ukraine formed by Russian propaganda and facilitating local communities' development in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts on decentralization reform.</p>
31	NGO "Public Television of Donbas" DPTV)	Matsuka Oleksiy	Online Television Programs by Public Television of Donbas	May 1- October 31, 2017	\$ 9,750	<p>U-Media provided the "Public Television of Donbas" NGO with a small grant to produce a cycle of online television programs about current developments in Donbas, including in Ukrainian government-controlled and nongovernment controlled areas. The programs broadcast news from Ukraine to break through the information block in Donbas that exists because of strong Russian propaganda in this area. Programs cover an array of topics – the Ukrainian government's initiatives towards re-integration of Donbas, news from Ukraine's mainland, news from Donbas'</p>

						residents' everyday lives on both sides of the war. Public Television of Donbas conducts all production in the Ukrainian government-controlled area to protect journalists. Online broadcasts reach occupied areas.
32	LLC Radio station "Velykyi Luh" (Great Meadow), Zaporizhzhia	Erik Brynza	LLC Radio station "Velykyi Luh" (Great Meadow)	June 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018	\$18,000	U-Media supports the LLC radio station "Velykyi Luh" to raise reform implementation awareness of residents of Zaporizhzhia region and their influence on Ukrainians' living standards. The project focuses on decentralization, education and healthcare. Topics are covered by radio programs and Internet publications (distributed through the information portal http://www.inform.zp.ua/) and vary from consolidation of local communities in decentralization reform to success stories of local businesses working in the European market. The scope of work includes content production in the form of radio programs and Internet publications.
33	NGO "Institute of Gender Programs" (IGP)	Maria Berlinska, Director	Production and Publicizing Documentaries about Women in the Peace and Security Sector	April 1 – October 31, 2017	\$58,356	U-Media supported the Institute of Gender Programs in production and distribution of video documentary content addressing issues of females in peace and security (serving in the Ukrainian army) and promoting participation of women and integration of gender perspectives in security sector institutions. Institute of Gender Programs produced six documentaries featuring stories of females who serve in the Ukrainian Army during the war in Donbas. The documentaries focused on females who are not officially recognized as combatants when, in fact, they participated in a variety of combat roles. The documentaries were broadcast on 1+1 television channel on October 15, 2017.
34	Suspilnist Foundation for Support of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company and UA: Pershy	Olena Bondarenko, Deputy Director, Daria Yurovska, Advisor to Chair of the Board of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company,	Establishing Public Service Broadcasting in Ukraine	July 1 – December 31, 2017; April 1- July 31, 2018	\$179,466 \$15,000	U-Media supported Suspilnist Foundation to work with the National Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) Company of Ukraine and the UA: Pershy television channel to develop a credible Ukrainian Public Broadcaster, which was officially registered on January 19, 2017. Reform of public broadcasting is a crucial step in development of democracy and transparency in Ukraine. SF and National PSB Company focused on three priorities while implementing this project: 1) Production of an innovative television program to discuss Ukraine reforms in the

Taras Petriv, President						<p>economic, political, social and cultural sectors; 2) Development of the public service broadcaster's communication strategy to promote media reform and attract a larger audience to television and radio channels operating under the National PSB Company; and 3) Development of the public service broadcaster's operation plan for 2018 and related documents, such as a budget restructuring plan and a four-year strategy, including regional divisions of the National Public Service Broadcasting Company.</p> <p>In April-July 2018, Suspilnist Foundation will produce online backstage content for UA:Pershky's late-night show and help UA:Pershky to operate a convergent platform for this show.</p>
35	Odesa Regional Organization of All-Ukrainian NGO "Committee of Voters of Ukraine" (OCVU)	Valeriy Bolgan	Improving citizens' media literacy in Odesa Oblast	Feb 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$16,988.5	<p>U-Media supports Odesa Regional Organization of All-Ukrainian NGO "Committee of Voters of Ukraine" (CVU) to improve media literacy of local residents in Odesa Oblast. CVU conducts a comprehensive media education campaign aiming at improving critical thinking and conscious media consumption creating demand for high-quality news and media coverage of reforms for Odesa Oblast's residents.</p>
36	NGO «Bureau of Policy Analysis», Sumy (BPA)	Ivan Bondarenko, Victor Bobyrenko	Raising public awareness of reforms in the north of Ukraine	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$6,200	<p>U-Media supports an NGO "Bureau of Policy Analysis" (BPA) to raise awareness of residents of the northern regions of Ukraine of the progress in reforms implementation and their influence on Ukrainians' living standards. Among the reforms to focus on: decentralization, education system and healthcare. Overcoming negative stereotypes formed by the Russian propaganda in the north of Ukraine is among the goals. The scope of work comprises of content production and training for journalists.</p>
37	NGO "Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting" (MCIR)	Oleg Oganov	Local Investigative Reporting Centers' initiative: Raising Ukrainians' awareness of	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$7,510	<p>This project was designed as a result of regional investigative reporters' networking activities and aimed at joint production and broadcast of investigative reporting video stories to provide Ukrainians with high-quality unbiased information on socially important topics through independent media. U-Media supports the NGO "Mykolaiv Center for</p>

			socially important issues through television investigative reporting programs			Investigative Reporting” (MCIR) to produce 6 video investigative reports to be broadcast on the UA:Pershy, Channel 24 in “Nashi Hroshi” television program (anchored by Denys Bigus), Chornomorska TV, local TV stations, and publicized through the investigative reporting platforms of the MCIR (http://nikcenter.org/), “4vlada” (http://4vlada.com/), the Information and Press Center (IPC) (https://investigator.org.ua/ua/), and Svidomo (http://svidomo.org/). MCIR and its partners – Rivne Investigative Reporting Agency (RAIR), Svidomo and the Information and Press Center (IPC) – cover important local political, economic and social issues while producing the investigative reports.
38	NGO «Donetsk Press Club» (DPC)	Tetyana Stroy	Raising awareness of positive changes in the East: Free Donbas digest	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$9,714	U-Media supports an NGO “Donetsk Press Club” (DPC) to raise awareness of Ukrainians and international community about the changing situation in the East of Ukraine. The DPC focuses on positive processes that are going in the East of Ukraine despite of the war, and which are less known by Ukrainians because national Ukrainian media outlets cover mostly the war and pay less attention to such important integration factors as self-organization of civil society in the cities and villages of Donbas, entrepreneurial activity development, launch of technological start-ups, cultural revival, and de-occupation of people’s consciousness. Donetsk Press Club distributes information through a Free Donbas digest in Facebook (in Russian/Ukrainian and English) and through an innovative Telegram network channel. The planned weekly viewership is 120,000.
39	Rivne NGO Investigative Reporting Agency “Fourth Power” (FP)	Antonina Torbich	Local Investigative Reporting Centers’ initiative: Raising Ukrainians’ awareness of socially important issues through television	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$7,500	This project was designed as a result of regional investigative reporters’ networking activities and aimed at joint production and broadcast of investigative reporting video stories to provide Ukrainians with high-quality unbiased information on socially important topics through independent media. U-Media supports Rivne NGO Investigative Reporting Agency “Fourth Power” to produce 6 video investigative reports, which will be broadcast on the UA:Pershy, Channel 24 in “Nashi Hroshi” television program (anchored by Denys Bigus), Chornomorska

			investigative reporting programs			<p>TV, local TV stations, and publicized through the investigative reporting platforms of “4vlada” (http://4vlada.com/), Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting (MCIR) (http://nikcenter.org/), the Information and Press Center (IPC) (https://investigator.org.ua/ua/), and Svidomo (http://svidomo.org/).</p> <p>Rivne NGO Investigative Reporting Agency "Fourth Power" and its partners – Mykolayiv Center for Investigative Reporting (MCIR), Svidomo and Information and Press Center (IPC) – cover important local political, economic and social issues while producing the investigative reports.</p>
40	NGO Hromadske Radio (HR)	Andriy Kulykov, Olena Vostrova	Trustworthy Media Development through Independent Radio Content Production	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$10,000	<p>U-Media supports the NGO Hromadske Radio (HR) to produce a series of radio live talk shows, YouTube videos, internet publications with infographics to raise the level of critical thinking among local residents (with the accent on the conflict-affected population) in Kyiv and Mariupol. The content produced and aired by the Hromadske Radio contributes to raising public awareness of manipulations in information distributed by media and other sources, such as politicians’ headquarters, politically biased public organizations, and other in various sectors, especially in the light of information warfare with Russia. Hromadske Radio content promotes trust and peacebuilding ideas in communities and enables development of trustworthy independent media.</p> <p>In addition to content production, Hromadske Radio organizes media literacy trainings for conflict-affected communities.</p>
41	NGO “Public Television of Zaporizhzhia” (Hromadske TV Zaporizhzhia, HTZ)	Kateryna Markova, Taras Bilka,	Gender-balanced reporting: Women of Industrial City	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$8,540	<p>U-Media supports the NGO “Public Television of Zaporizhzhia” (HTZ) (www.hromadske-zp.tv) to produce and disseminate through its platform a series of TV episodes about women making influence on positive changes in Zaporizhzhia region</p>
42	NGO Insight (INS)	Olena Shevchenko, Taisiya Herasymova	Content production: tolerance in simple words	Mar 1 – Jun 31, 2018	\$6,990	<p>U-Media supports the NGO Insight (INS) (www.insight-ukraine.org) to produce and disseminate a series of text and audio products about human rights of vulnerable groups including LGBTI persons, women,</p>

						disabled people, Roma, immigrants, in simple language, mainly targeted at youth (18-35 years old) who are active internet users.
43	Information and Press Center, Crimea (Investigative Reporting Center), now located in Kyiv	Liudmyla Zlobina	Local Investigative Reporting Centers' initiative: Raising Ukrainians' awareness of socially important issues through television investigative reporting programs	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$7,500	This project is the initiative of regional investigative reporting centers for joint production and broadcast of investigative reporting video stories to provide Ukrainians with high-quality unbiased information on socially important topics through independent media. NGO "Information and Press Center" (IPC) will produce 6 video investigative reports, which will be broadcast on the UA:Pershy, Channel 24 in "Nashi Hroshi" television program (anchored by Denys Bigus), Chornomorska TV, local TV stations, and publicized through the investigative reporting platforms of IPC (https://investigator.org.ua/) and its partners - Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting (MCIR) (http://nikcenter.org/), "4vlada" (http://4vlada.com/), and Svidomo (http://svidomo.org/).
44	Charitable Foundation for Support and Development of Public Service Broadcasting of Ukraine (SuspilneTV)	Anna Desyatova, Lilia Dutka (Chernivtsi),	Promotion of decentralization reform through content production for regional public broadcaster's branch (Chernivtsi)	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$9,460	U-Media supports the Charitable Foundation for Support and Development of Public Service Broadcasting of Ukraine to work with Chernivtsi branch (Bukovyna) of the National Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) Company to implement a project promoting merged local communities within the decentralization reform. Chernivtsi branch organizes a Media School for selected representatives of local communities and trains them on media relations, public relations and media production. The Media School participants, in tandem with Chernivtsi branch of the National PSB Company are to produce television stories featuring successes of the decentralization reform on a local level and to broadcast on Bukovyna television channel. Potential audience is 640,000 viewers.
45	Charitable Foundation for Support and Development of Public Service Broadcasting of	Anna Desyatova, Olexandra Sverdlova	Public broadcaster's late-night show: promoting critical thinking through	Mar 15 – Aug 31, 2018	\$149,985	U-Media supports the National Public Service Broadcasting (PSB) Company of Ukraine and the UA:Pershy channel to produce and promote a late night show similar to which was launched in September 2017 and broadcast by the end of December 2017 under the ChereShchur title. The new late night show will have a new anchor to be selected through casting at the UA:Pershy, and a new title as a result of

	Ukraine (SuspilneTV)		entertaining television format			<p>selection of the anchor. The UA:Pershly team will use ChereShchur's show format of interviews with two guests followed by an entertaining segment (song or musical composition) to promote contemporary Ukrainian culture.</p> <p>The goals of the project are to produce high quality late night show attracting viewers' attention to serious topics discussed in a satirical manner, promote contemporary Ukrainian culture, and cultivate critical thinking among Ukrainians. Potential audience of the program is over 4,000,000 people.</p> <p>UA:Pershly will continue its cooperation with Suspilnist Foundation selecting young audience for the studio and producing online backstage version of the television show.</p> <p>Charitable Foundation for Support and Development of Public Service Broadcasting of Ukraine established by the National Television and Radio Company in 2014 will be an administrative body for implementation of this grant.</p>
46	NGO Community Service "Svidomo"	Olena Kozachenko	Local Investigative Reporting Centers' initiative: Raising Ukrainians' awareness of socially important issues through television investigative reporting programs	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$11,700	<p>This project is the initiative of regional investigative reporting centers for joint production and broadcast of investigative reporting video stories to provide Ukrainians with high-quality unbiased information on socially important topics through independent media.</p> <p>NGO Community Service "Svidomo" will produce 6 video investigative reports, which will be broadcast on the UA:Pershly, Channel 24 in "Nashi Hroshi" television program (anchored by Denys Bigus), Chornomorska TV, local TV stations, and publicized through the investigative reporting platforms of Svidomo (http://svidomo.org/) and its partners - "4vlada" (http://4vlada.com/), Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting (MCIR) (http://nikcenter.org/), and the Information and Press Center (IPC) (https://investigator.org.ua/ua/).</p>
47	NGO Community Service "Svidomo"	Maksym Opanasenko, Maria Zamlianska	Countering misuse of state budget through	Mar 15 – Jul 31, 2018	\$10,000	<p>U-Media supports an NGO Community Service "Svidomo" (SVDM) to implement the project, aimed at strengthening investigative journalism in Ukraine through production and publicizing television investigative</p>

			strengthening investigative reporting			<p>stories about misuse of the state budget funds on the national and regional levels and manipulations in public procurement. The stories are broadcast in “Nashi Hroshi” television program anchored by a well-known investigative journalist Denys Bigus on the UA:Pershy (public broadcaster) and Channel 24. The overall potential audience is 10,000,000 people (4,000,000 of the UA:Pershy, and 6,000,000 of the Channel 24).</p> <p>“Svidomo” also produces text news pieces generated by the video stories and disseminates them through the online resources – Ukrainska Pravda, http://nashigroshi.org/, https://bihus.info/, http://www.svidomo.org/.</p>
48	All-Ukrainian charitable organization Fulcrum, Tochka Opory (TO)	Tymur Levchuk, Maksym Ivanukha	Journalism of tolerance	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$6,500	<p>U-Media supports the charitable organization Fulcrum, Tochka Opory (TO), www.t-o.org.ua, to produce and disseminate a series of multimedia products about human rights, equality and tolerance in a society</p>
49	NGO Ukrainian Centre for European Policy (UCEP)	Inna Korsun, Svitlana Chernetska	Analytical Support to Regional Media in Communicating pro-European Reforms	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$9,997	<p>U-Media supports the NGO Ukrainian Centre for European Policy (UCEP) to produce a series of analytical publications for further use by regional journalists in their media stories about Ukraine’s progress in implementation of the key reforms. Selected journalists and media outlets in 15 regions (with a focus on the east and south of Ukraine) is a target audience of the series of the UCEP’s analytical articles. This selected regional media pool, while using the UCEP’s analytics, provides quality regional coverage of the progress in key reforms and contribute to raising public awareness and support of the reforms.</p>
50	NGO Ukrainian Media Initiative (UMI)	Taras Prokopyshyn, Inna Bereznitska	Improving capacity of independent media: instruments for sustainability and success	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$7,172.4	<p>U-Media supports the NGO Ukrainian Media Initiative (UMI) for content production (text interviews and podcasts) and workshops on monetization for media specialists. UMI produces multimedia stories about the most successful independent newly created media projects in Ukraine, including information about their financial strategies, and instruments they use to build their capacity. These stories are publicized through the https://theukrainians.org/ online media outlet and the online radio http://radioskovoroda.com/radio. UMI also conducts regional</p>

51	NGO “Informational and educational center “VIS”, Vinnytsia	Svitlana Dubyna	Summer Youth Leadership Camp for girls in Vinnytsia	Mar 1 – Aug 31, 2018	\$5,385	seminars for media professionals to promote new instruments of media monetization. U-Media supports the NGO “Informational and educational center “VIS” to organize a Summer Youth Leadership Camp for girls from different regions of Ukraine focusing on communication skills, media literacy, digital security, raising youth’s awareness of human rights, cultivating leadership potential among young women, and supporting gender equality in Ukrainian society.
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